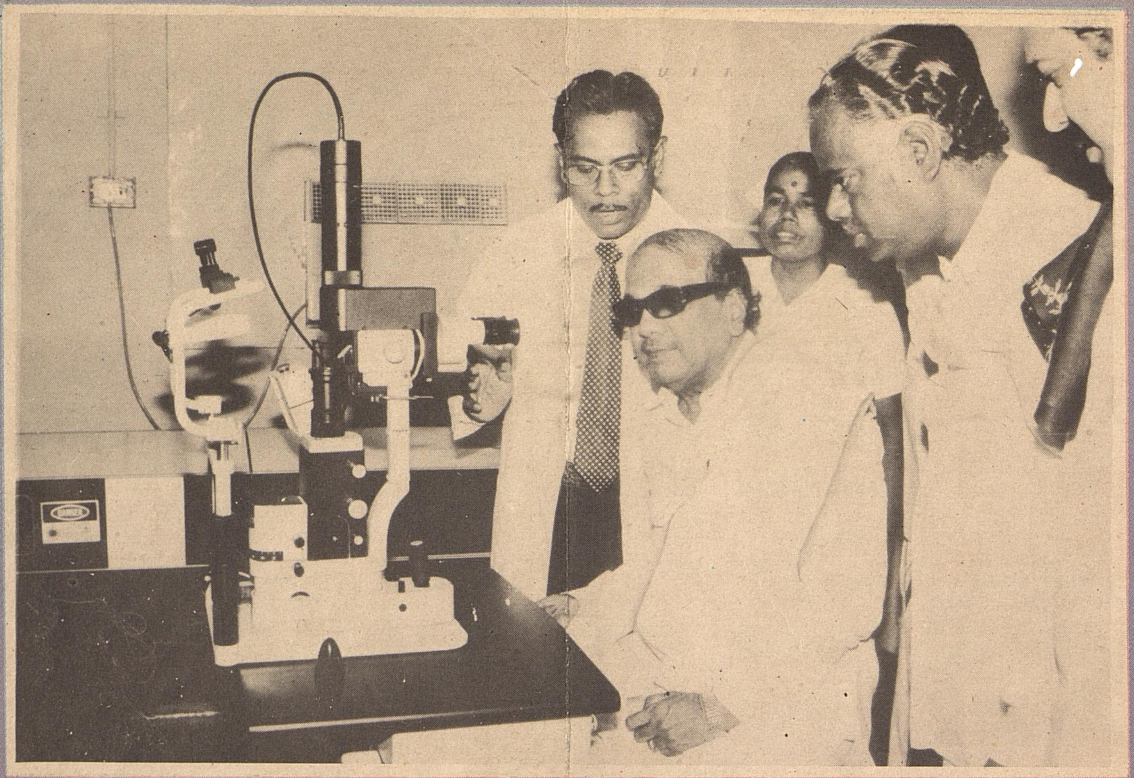
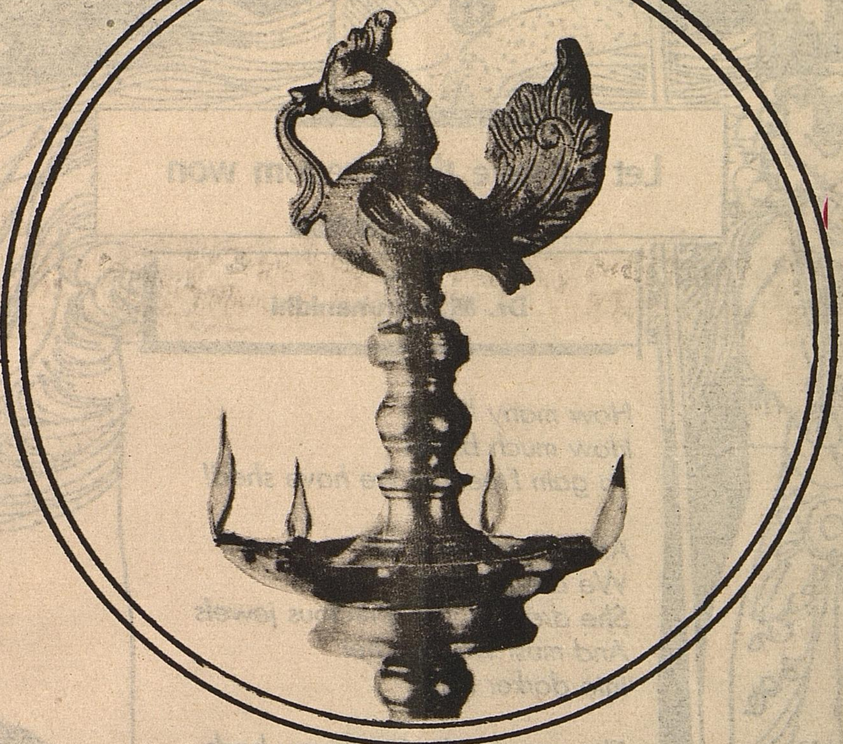
Tamil Arasu

AUGUST 1989 Re. 1.



Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Dr. M. Karunanidhi inaugurated the Sophisticated Equipments worth Rs. 20 lakhs at the Regional Institute of Ophthalmology, Madras-8 on 14-7-1989.



TAMIL ARASU

A Monthly Journal of Government of Tamil Nadu

Thiruvalluvar Year 2020

August 1989

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Let us save the freedom won

By
Dr. M. Karunanidhi

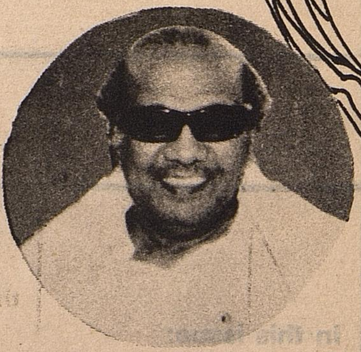
How many lives
How much blood
To gain Freedom we have shed!

After Himalayan toil
We are in Freedom Soil—
She dressed with precious jewels
And must we fling her
Into darker mire?

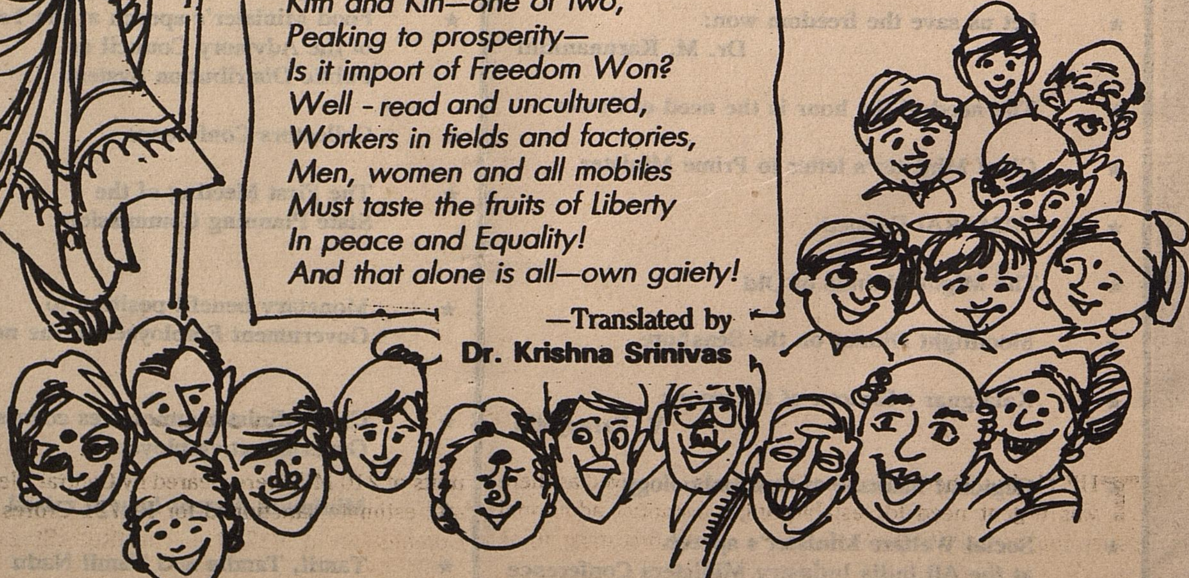
The rose berthed in thorny beds,
Flucked to perfume woman's tress
Must blaze and blaze—
Not touched
By leprous palms!

Let us save our Freedom Won!
Let us heap glories
On Freedomed Warriors!

Kith and Kin—one or two,
Peaking to prosperity—
Is it import of Freedom Won?
Well - read and uncultured,
Workers in fields and factories,
Men, women and all mobiles
Must taste the fruits of Liberty
In peace and Equality!
And that alone is all—own gaiety!



—Translated by
Dr. Krishna Srinivas



The Need of the hour is the need of Power

THE President, Thiru R. Venkataraman laid the foundation stone for the Madras Thermal Power Station-I Stage (630 MW) at Ennore Island off Madras on July 1, 1989.

The Chief Minister, Dr. M. Karunanidhi presided over the function.

The Governor, Dr. P.C. Alexander laid the foundation stone for the housing colony of the employees of the station.

The Electricity Minister, Thiru K.N. Nehru released a souvenir on the occasion.

The Chief Secretary, Thiru M.M. Rajendran, Thiru N.V.N. Somu, M.P., Tmt. Maragatham Chandrasekar M.P., and Thiru K. Sundaram M.L.A., participated in the function.

The T.N.E.B. Chairman, Thiru T.V. Antony welcomed the gathering.

Thiru K. Krishnaswamy Rao, Member (Generation), T.N.E.B., proposed a vote of thanks.

MADRAS THERMAL POWER PROJECT

THE Madras Thermal Power Project was conceived as there was urgent need for establishing substantial additional generating capacity in the State Sector. As the first stage, three units of 210 MW were cleared by Central Electricity Authority and estimate sanctioned for Rs.721 Crores by the Planning Commission in 9/87. This constitutes Stage-I of the Project

(3 × 210 MW) with 2 more 210 MW Units to be added under the second stage of the scheme and a further 2 Units of 500 MW later on aimed at reaching an ultimate capacity of 2050 MW at the Station. For the first two Units under first stage, Asian Development Bank (ADB) have sanctioned a loan of 150 Million U.S. Dollars. A second loan is also being negotiated with ADB to finance the third Unit under the first stage.

The first stage of the Madras Thermal Power Project is included in the Seventh Plan and benefits will accrue in the Eighth Plan. The scheme could not be taken up and proceeded with earlier due to litigation in land acquisition. Due to the kind and special interest taken by the Honourable Chief Minister Dr. Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi, the problem of litigation in land acquisition pending since 1987 has been solved and the scheme is being inaugurated on 1.7.1989 by His Excellency the President of India. The first Unit is now scheduled for commissioning by November 1992 and the second and the third units following the intervals of six months. The first stage when completed will supply 630 MW and 3300 Million Units per year.

Location of the Power Station The site for the proposed Madras Thermal Power Project is located about 20 KMs. North of Madras. The plot is flanked on the East by the Bay of Bengal, West by Buckingham Canal, South by Ennore Creek and North by Puzhuthivakkam Village. An area of 1107 acres is being acquired keeping in view the ultimate requirement of the Project. Land to the extent of about 1000 acres for the ash disposal and 180 acres for the construction of Staff quarters are being acquired separately.

India's power shortage of 7.7 per cent during 1988-89 is expected to increase to 17.4 per cent even if a 50 per cent increase in capacity at a cost of Rs.1,20,000 crores is achieved during the Eighth Plan period. Of the four regions in India, the Southern region is expected to feel the maximum peaking shortage of 20.7 per cent. With the increasing requirement of industrial and agricultural sectors Tamil Nadu's deficit would be even higher at 25.6%. One major constraint in Tamil Nadu is that power generation from the hydel sources which constitutes more than 50% of the aggregate capacity is subjected to serious uncertainties due to vagaries of monsoons. It is in this context that thermal and nuclear power generation have been attracting increasing attention in the recent years.

The inauguration of the works for Stage-I of the Madras Thermal Power Project augurs well for keeping up the tempo of development in Tamil Nadu. I am particularly happy to note that a housing colony consisting of about 300 blocks of 2,238 tenements is being developed along with the Power project.

I send my greetings and good wishes to all those involved in the execution of the project.

Dr. P.C. ALEXANDER
GOVERNOR OF TAMILNADU

Electricity as indispensable as the air we breathe

Electricity is a basic input for all developmental activities and its availability in adequate measure is imperative for national growth. It is a basic requirement for development of agriculture, industry, transport, communications, etc. It brings civilisation to the homes and hearths of not only the urban population but of those in remote rural areas. In modern times energy is as indispensible as the air we breathe. And, therefore, the engineers, technicians and workers engaged in power generation and distribution bear a responsibility to the nation and the people.

Thiru R. Venkataraman
PRESIDENT OF INDIA

SALIENT FEATURES OF THE SCHEME

Coal Linkage: The Coal requirement for the Power Project would be met from the Kalinga mines of the Talcher Coal fields in Orissa State. The transport of coal will be from the Kalinga Mines via Paradip Port to the proposed Satellite Port to be established at North Madras. Till the Satellite Port becomes functional, coal will be transported from Kalinga Mines by all Rail Route to the Madras Thermal Station or by Rail-Cum-Sea Route via Madras Harbour.

Cooling Water: The Cooling Water requirement for the first stage of the Power Station consisting of 3 Units of 210 MW will be of the order of 27.5 cusecs on the basis of once through system of cooling. As per scheme report, this quantum of cooling water is to be drawn from the Ennore Backwaters from which 23 cusecs of cooling water is being drawn at present for Ennore Thermal Power Station. With the requirement of Madras Thermal Power Project also coming up, the opening of the sand bar has to be dredged sufficiently to enable drawal of 50.5 cusecs of water continuously for both the Thermal Stations. The water after circulation through the condenser will be let out into the Bay of Bengal. The ultimate arrangement will be to draw cooling water directly from the sea and discharge the water into the proposed Satellite Port.

Raw Water: Raw Water required for the Project will be supplied by the Madras Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewage Board (MMWSSB). There is however, a proposal, to provide a Reverse Osmosis (R.O) Plant to take care of poor quality of water from other sources.

Environmental Aspects: Clearance from the environmental and Pollution angle had been accorded by the State Pollution Control Board and the Tamil Nadu State Environmental Committee. The Government of India have also accorded environmental clearance for the Madras Thermal Power Project.

Chimneys: The Chimneys will be multiflue design of height 275 meters (the tallest erected so far) so that the limits specified by the emission regulations are not exceeded.

Ash Disposal: Ash slurry will be pumped to an ash disposal area away from the power plant area. The supernatant water from the ash dump area will be recycled for slurrying purposes.

TamilNadu — a pioneer in rural electrification

Tamil Nadu has been a pioneer in rural electrification. It is a matter of great satisfaction that with the impetus that has been given to pumpset energisation, more than 12 lakh pumpsets are now operating on electricity. This has, no doubt, helped in a big way the Green Revolution in the State. In the domestic sector also the State has made good progress. Under the one light in one hut scheme, 8 lakh huts have been given service connections upto date. Even in the matter of per capita consumption of electricity, which is generally accepted as a reliable indicator of economic development, Tamil Nadu compares favourably with the rest of India. The average per capita consumption of electricity in Tamil Nadu during 1987-88 is 249.28 kwh and Tamil Nadu ranks 10th in per capita power consumption in the country.

Thiru R. Venkataraman
PRESIDENT OF INDIA

Estimated Cost: The estimated cost of the sanctioned scheme for the first stage works out to Rs.721 crores.

Main Equipment: The contracts for supply and erection of 2 Nos. 210 MW Steam Generator & Auxiliaries and Turbine Generator and Auxiliaries have already been entered into with Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited.

The completion of this project located at the load centre will in large measure improve the power position in Tamil Nadu and in particular of Madras City.

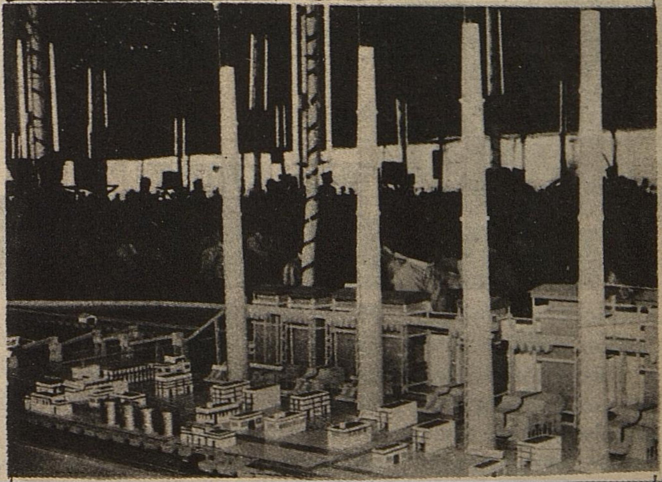
It is no exaggeration to say that the need of the hour is the need of power. Electricity, water resources and industrialisation are the vital sources for the development of a State. I am happy to state that the Government of Tamil Nadu has taken a few proud strides towards progress. The first unit is now scheduled for commissioning by November 1992 and the second and third units following in intervals of six months. The first stage when completed will supply 630 MW and 3300 million units per year.

It gives me immense pleasure to note that the first stage of Madras Thermal Power Project is being inaugurated by His Excellency the President of India on 1-7-1989.

The completion of the project, I am aware, has faced serious setbacks in its initial stage due to litigation in land acquisition and the problem has successfully been solved and the scheme is being inaugurated on 1-7-1989.

I congratulate all those involved in the project for their laudable and "power"ful achievement.

Dr. M. KARUNANIDHI
CHIEF MINISTER OF TAMILNADU



C.M's sincere efforts

Though this Madras Thermal Power Project was sanctioned in 1986, it could not be taken up on account of certain litigation. I am glad that all these have been solved thanks to the personal efforts made by the Chief Minister and that we are in a happy position to initiate the work on the Project today. I hope the Chief Minister will give his personal attention to all the problems and hurdles that may arise in the execution of the Project and help the completion of the Project ahead of the target date.

Thiru R. Venkataraman
PRESIDENT OF INDIA

URBAN LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

Chief Minister's letter to Prime Minister on 3-7-89

Dear Prime Minister,

Please refer to your letter of June 27, 1989 inviting me to attend the Conference of Chief Ministers on 7th July to discuss issues relating to urban local self-government.

In the case of Panchayat Raj institutions a similar Conference was held on 5th May. I was unable to participate in the Conference on account of the Golden Jubilee of our Legislative Assembly but our State was represented by Thiru Nanjil K. Manoharan, Minister for Revenue. Thereafter, the 64th Amendment Bill 1989 was introduced in Parliament on 15th May 1989. Subsequent to this, I had written to you on 25th May. I had suggested that it was best, in view of the varying circumstances in each state, to treat the proposed Bill as a set of suggested guidelines and leave it to the States to modify or improve their Panchayat Legislations in that light. In this background, I had urged you not to proceed with the Constitutional Amendment. I had also urged that if this suggestion was not acceptable, you may convene a meeting of Chief Ministers to discuss the matter once again in the light of the proposed Amendments to the Constitution and also to have discussions with the leaders of all political parties represented in Parliament. I had pointed out that this was necessary because the proposed amendments to the Constitution were not placed before the Chief Ministers at the Conference on 5th May although they were introduced very soon thereafter in Parliament on 15th May. I have not had a reply so far to this letter.

Issues relating to local government in urban areas have been discussed by the Centre at several levels such as the Seminar of Municipal Officers, the Nagarpalika Sammelans, the Conference of Chief Secretaries and most recently, the Conference of Ministers in-charge of local self-government held on 30th June in which our State was represented by Thiru. Veerapandi Arumugham. The views of our Government and of the representatives from local bodies in Tamil Nadu have been conveyed in these forums. As in the case of Panchayat Raj institutions our stand is that it is not necessary or desirable to impose uniform arrangements throughout India in regard to urban local bodies. In the light of the various discussions that have been held each State may be left to provide them with adequate responsibilities, powers, and resources in a manner best suited to its circumstances and situation.

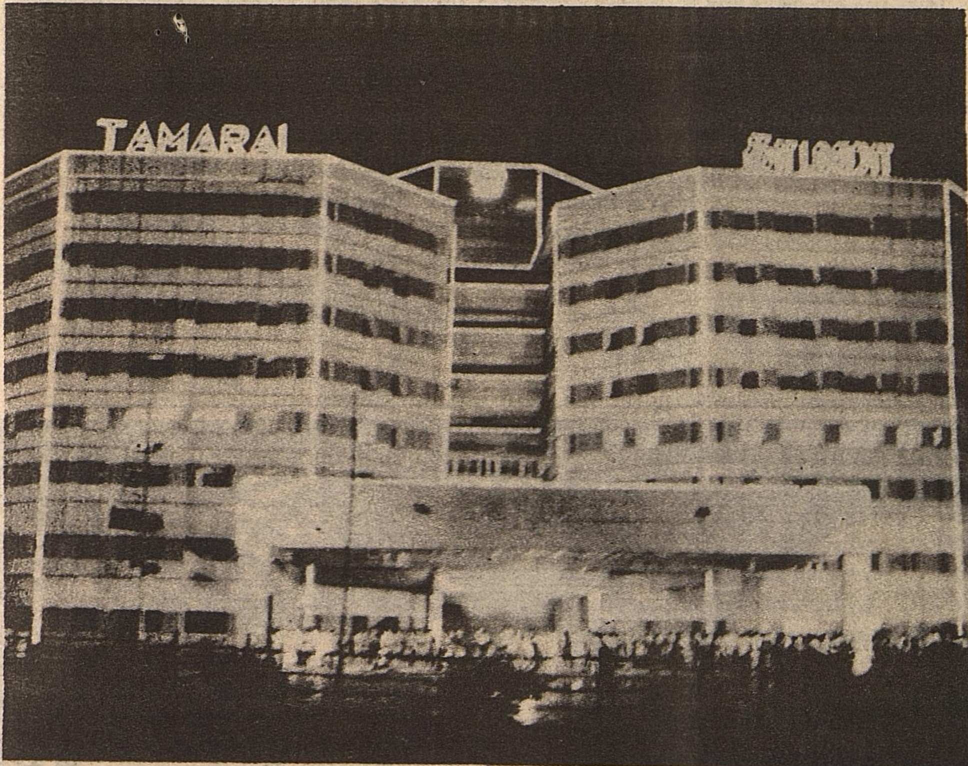
We are committed to holding regular elections to Corporations, Municipalities and other urban local bodies once in five years. We also agree that in cases of supersession elections should be held not later than six months. On this issue there is likely to be agreement among all the States. If a Constitutional provision is considered desirable for this purpose, we would have no objection to its introduction. On all other matters of detail, it may be left to the States to introduce necessary legislation recognising that local self-government falls exclusively in their jurisdiction under Entry 5 in List II of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution.

In your letter you have stated that the Central Government propose to bring forward a major legislation in the next session of the Lok Sabha relating to democracy and development in the urban areas. Once again, I would urge that this is not necessary. If however, you intend to proceed with Constitutional Amendments, the precise amendments that are contemplated may be brought before a Conference of Chief Ministers for specific discussion. I shall be happy to attend such a Conference.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/.xx.xxxx

(M. KARUNANIDHI)



TAMARAI

The Tamil Nadu Arasu Medical Science and Research Institute FORMED

First Cover Story

THE Chief Minister Dr. M. Karunanidhi inaugurated the Tamil Nadu Arasu Medical Science and Research Institute (TAMARAI) in the campus of the Sri Ramachandra Medical College at Porur a suburb of Madras on 12th July 1989.

Inaugurating the Institute, the Chief Minister, Dr. M. Karunanidhi, said the State Government was determined to make TAMARAI a centre of excellence like the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences in Delhi and the Post-Graduate Medical Institute at Chandigarh.

The Institute would funcion as an autonomous body. The Medical College and Hospital along with other facilities on the campus will be attached to TAMARAI. The Chief Minister said the Government would take all steps to get the college recognised by the Medical Council and to fill up the vacancies of doctors and teaching staff in the hospital and the college.

As the idea was to develop into an institute of highest learning, the Government was considering a reduction in the number of students admitted to MBBS at the college and provide greater facilities for post-graduate education.

The inaugural function was held in the presence of Prof. K. Anbazhagan, Minister for Education. Dr. Ponmudi, Minister for Health presided over the function. Dr. M. Tamilkudimagan, Speaker,TamilNadu Ligislative Assembly and Thiru M. M. Rajendran, Chief Secretary to the Government offered felicitations.

Thiru K.J.M. Shetty, Health Secretary welcomed the gathering, Thiru M. B. Pranesh, Special Officer proposed a vote of thanks.

"TAMARAI"

TAMIL NADU Arasu Medical Science and Research Institute will be an autonomous body under the Government of Tamil Nadu. Located in a spacious campus of about 176 acres and equipped with sophisticated equipment and a highly qualified faculty, the institute will fulfil a long felt need to have a Centre of Excellence for higher medical science, education and research in Tamil Nadu.

To select the specific areas of research which should be given priority and to advise on the organisation and development of the institute, the Government have appointed a Technical Advisory Committee consisting of eminent doctors in the fields of medicine, surgery and medical education as follows.-

Dr. B. Ramamurthi	Dr. S. Krishnamurthi
Dr. Dante Mathuranayagam	Dr. K. V. Thiruvengadam
Dr. A. Venugopal	Dr. N. Madanagopalan
Dr. A. S. Thambiah	Dr. Sam G.P. Moses.
Dr. S. S. Badrinath	Dr. S. Kameswaran and
Dr. N. Rangabashyam	The Director of Medical Education.

The Institute will also include the Sri Ramachandra Medical College and a large and modern hospital with over 1,000 beds.

The Mighty Minds of Old

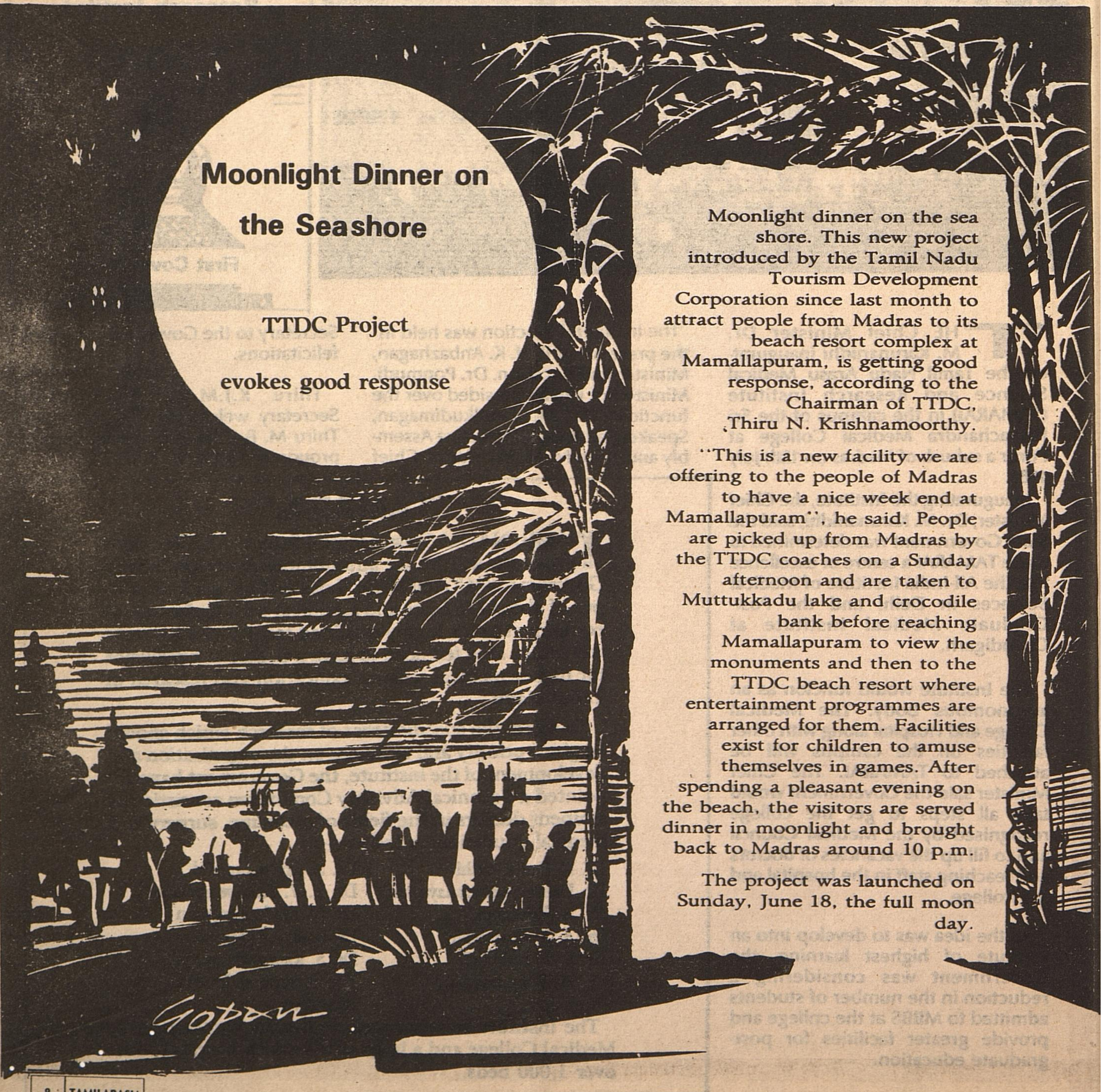
Devotion to Duty

Those that are determined to accomplish a thing
Mind not their bodily exertion;
Feel no hunger;
Indulge not in sleep;
Care not for the hindrance of others;
Regard not the unsuitability of time
And mind not the scoffs and scorns of others

-Neethi-Neri-Vilakkam Verse 53

மெய்வருத்தம் பாரார் பசிநோக்கார் கண்துஞ்சார்
எவ்வெவர் தீமையும் மேற்கொள்ளார் — செவ்வி
அருமையும் பாரார் அவமதிப்பும் கொள்ளார்
கருமமே கண்ணாயி னார்.

— நீதிநெறி விளக்கம் பாடல் 53



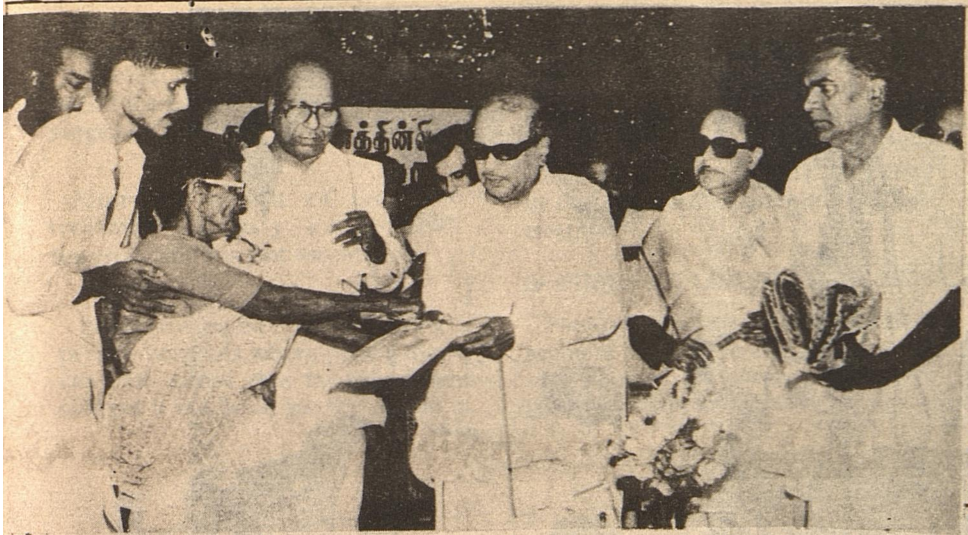
Moonlight Dinner on the Seashore

TTDC Project evokes good response

Moonlight dinner on the sea shore. This new project introduced by the Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation since last month to attract people from Madras to its beach resort complex at Mamallapuram, is getting good response, according to the Chairman of TTDC, Thiru N. Krishnamoorthy.

"This is a new facility we are offering to the people of Madras to have a nice week end at Mamallapuram", he said. People are picked up from Madras by the TTDC coaches on a Sunday afternoon and are taken to Muttukkadu lake and crocodile bank before reaching Mamallapuram to view the monuments and then to the TTDC beach resort where entertainment programmes are arranged for them. Facilities exist for children to amuse themselves in games. After spending a pleasant evening on the beach, the visitors are served dinner in moonlight and brought back to Madras around 10 p.m.

The project was launched on Sunday, June 18, the full moon day.



KALAIGNAR: SAVIOUR OF THE POOR

V.PARANJOTHI
(Veepa)
Deputy Director (Information)

O Drum! Sound Unity,
And Love's triumph;
Decree prosperity
For all upon the Earth —*Mahakavi Bharathi*

A society devoid of political thinkers and men of many parts is sterile, stagnant, barren and retrograde. Social progress is a continuous process brought about by social thinkers whom modern sociologists and economists call as social scientists. A social scientist is not a mere academician or a utopian. But he is one among the people, analysing people's problems, making an anatomical study of the various segments of society in its entirety, constantly and constructively working for the principles which, he believes, will make a big change in the social structure. The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu is one such eminent social scientist that the 20th century has produced in India. He has a philosophy — a vision and a mission to carry the torch of knowledge into the unknown corners of the State, despite the various hurdles and constraints and unbridled political opposition, and to make the people under-stand their powers and rights.

In the galaxy of social and political thinkers of India, particularly in the south Dr. Kalaignar enjoys a pre-eminent place. To put it succinctly, all the five major social welfare schemes namely, the abolition of hand-rickshaws, rehabilitation of leprous beggars, free supply of spectacles and eye camps, family benefit scheme and labour participation in management, bear the stamp of his originality and unfathomable love for the weak, the meek and the needy.

Starting from his 48th birthday, on June 3, 1971 till June 3, 1975, all the four schemes were launched, and the philanthropists and voluntary organisations came forward willingly to contribute their mite for the success of these programmes.

Another area in which Dr. Kalaignar has always been evincing deep interest is the "emancipation of the physically handicapped". The Muttukadu Training Centre for the physically handicapped, though it has become uncared for after 1976 like the Paranur Leprous Beggars Rehabilitation Home, is a novel measure that received acclaim and appreciation from all and gave hope for the handicapped. Needless to say that Dr. Kalaignar realised the stupendous force in the words of Miss Helen Keller who said "when one door of happiness closes, another opens, but we often look so long at the closed door, that we do not see the one which has been opened for us".

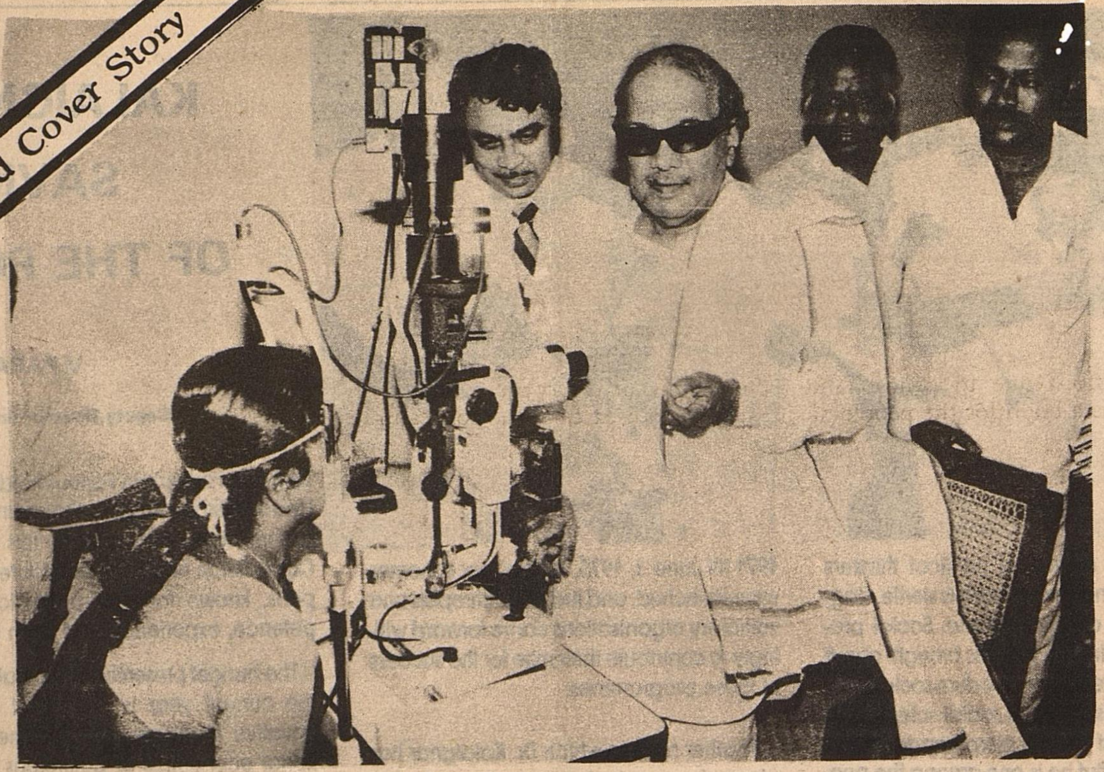
The revival of the State Planning Commission, which is the brain-child of the Chief Minister, makes one understand his faith in planning and methodical implementation of the various socio-economic programmes.

To quote Dr. Kalaignar: "When the D.M.K. Government came back to power and I assumed the office of Chief Minister, I held a series of meetings with different sections of people. You may recall that at the meeting of the industrialists held on March 6th, I informed that the State Planning Commission would be constituted as a 'Think Tank' with experts in various fields and that I would also assume the chairmanship of the Commission. Accordingly this Planning Commission has been constituted with experts, known for their professional competence, experience and keen interest."

The budget presented by Dr. Kalaignar for the current year is replete of social innovative measures which some conventional economists or politicians may call populist. No, they are not populist. Supply of 5-Kg. free rice, and free saree and dhoti and concrete houses for Harijans and egg supply to children meet the basic and minimum needs of the weaker sections who are denied of such assistance and amenities so far. The six-point women's welfare scheme is really a well-conceived pragmatic plan. Many might have forgotten that one of the components of the 19-point constructive programme of Mahatma Gandhi was women's emancipation.

Till Gandhiji appeared on the Indian political arena, women were treated as mere "tools in the hands of men". Now that the second era of women's welfare is ignited by the Chief Minister, one can rest assured that after a decade or two, the women in Tamil Nadu may have an enviable position in manning public offices and enjoying an equal social status, fulfilling the dream of the people's poet Bharati. Equal share in ancestral property inheritance, 30 per cent reservation in public offices, free education upto graduate level, marriage grant of Rs. 5,000 to poor girls and allowance of Rs.200 to pregnant and lactating women are all new progressive schemes which are adumbrated and put into reality by Dr. Kalaignar whom millions of poor people, not only in Tamil Nadu but also all over India call as "Saviour of the poor", and the planners and social thinkers consider Dr. Kalaignar as a social scientist. Technicians and technocrats call him a social engineer.

Second Cover Story



Details of the cost and usefulness of the sophisticated equipments

Inaugurated by the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Dr. M. Karunanidhi at Regional Institute of Ophthalmology

on 14th July, 1989

GOLDMAN PERIMETER AND PULSAIR TONOMETER Rs. (1,69,000)

(A) Goldman Perimeter:-

THIS Perimeter is a well advanced one and measures the field of vision more deeply than the conventional one called Lister's Perimeter. The illumination of light used in this perimeter with different intensity is more useful to study the depth of the field defects. This is also very useful to detect early field changes in Glaucoma cases.

(B) Pulsair Tonometer.-

Very simple, easily handled non-contact Tonometer used to assess Intra Occular pressure precisely. Wherever applanation tonometer is contraindicated, it can be used for early detection of Glaucoma in mass scale programme it plays an immense role. The time consumption is very little and in mass screening programme it is ideal device to put into use. Glaucoma is a disastrous disease which will lead to irrepairable visual loss without much awareness of sufferers.

Such dreaded disease, if identified earlier, can be treatable. This is quite feasible with this instrument. This equipment plays a prominent role in prevention of blindness by way of early detection and prevention of Glaucoma. In juncture where there is a fear of corneal damage this device will come to our rescue and serve our purpose in assessing intra occular pressure if warranted.

II FUNDUS CAMERA (Rs. 3,03,000)

Fundus camera is designed to take direct photographs of the retinao vessels, optic nerve head in various disorders of Retinao. It is very useful for documentation of investigations and planning retinal theraphy like Laser therapy. Fundus Fluorescin Angigraphy is done with the help of fundus camera by injecting a dyeflourescin 10 or 25% strength, which will reveal the abnormalities of retinal and choroidal vasculatures. It is particularly useful in the assessment of Diabetic Retinopathy Eales Disease, Retinal Vascular accidents and macular disorders.

III. LASER EQUIPMENT (Rs. 10,39,574/-)

Laser is defined as light amplification by stimulated emission and radiation. There are different types of laser like Argon, Krypton, Ruby Lasers and dye lasers. Argon and Krypton laser is produced by gas ions with green light and redlight respectively. In laser therapy light energy is converted into heat energy and produces coalgulam in the blood vessel and scar on the tissue. It is useful in Diabetes, Hypertension and Glaucoma.

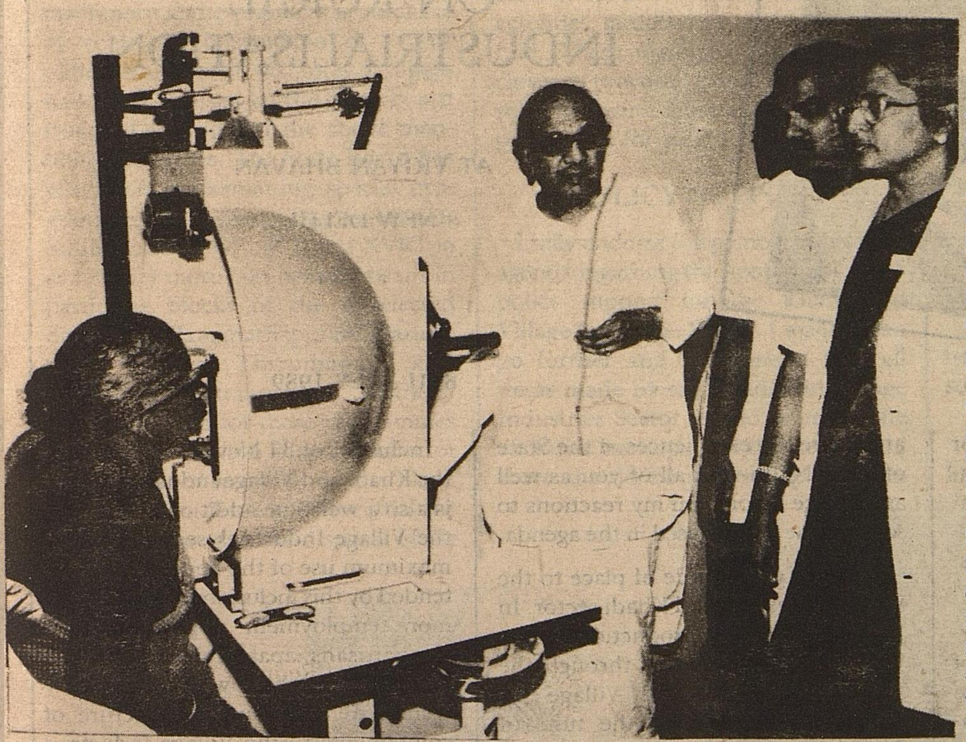
Because of Laser, no surgery is required for some diseases like Glaucoma: otherwise these patients would have to undergo same form of surgical (Operative) treatment.

After the advent of laser the treatment is easy and simple, hospitalisation is not essential.

As this treatment is available only in private hospitals where poor patients can not afford due to exhorbitant charges it is a boon for the people of Tamil Nadu who can avail free treatment in Government Ophthalmic Hospital. Thanks to our Chief Minister, Government of Tamil Nadu is unique in procuring these equipments to this Government Hospital so that thousands of patients will be benifited by this advanced sophisticated form of treatment.

IV. PHOTO SLIT LAMP (Rs. 2,25,000/-)

Photo slit lamp magnifies the anterior segment of the eye and it gives live sectioning of the cornea. It helps to study the diseases of the cornea in its various layers. The endothelial cell counter helps to count the number of cells and also cometancy of endothelium of cornea. It gives a high prognostic value on the outcome of corneal grafting. Corneal thickness measurement attachment helps to measure the corneal thickness exactly in m.m. which is an added advantage. The photographic attachment helps to record the data as and when required which is of high critical value in assessing the progress of the disease and the documentation helps as teaching aid.



V. OPERATING MICROSCOPE (Rs. 2,89,000/-)

Operating Microscope magnifies the area of surgical field which is of immense value in delicate handling the tissue and proper approximation after a cut is made. While doing Intra Ocular lens implantation the red glow which is obtained after the cataract is removed and the positioning of the Intra Ocular Lens over the posterior capsule of the lens can be made possible only by operating microscope. The video attachment which could be obtained as an accessory to the microscope can be used for recording the entire surgical procedure and it can be relayed through T. V. monitor which could be observed by the trainees, students, Post-Graduates, Fellow Ophthalmologists by remaining outside the operating room. This facility can be extended even to the relatives of the patient. Good approximation and quick healing of the wounds are achieved better by using this equipment.

••May your life be a bright one, and may its lustre brighten the entire land. Accept my congratulations, and march onwards, towards the land of smiles''.••

—Anna

All candidates elected to Rajya Sabha

All the six candidates, who filed their nominations, have been elected to the Rajya Sabha from the Tamil Nadu Assembly. They are: Thiru Murasoli Maran, Thiru Viduthalai Virumbi, Thiru J.S. Raju, Thiru G. Venkataraman (all DMK) Thiru A. Nallasivan (CPI-M) and Thiru S.K.T. Ramachandran (Cong).

On the expiry of the deadline for withdrawal of nominations at 3 p.m. on 6th July, 1989, the Assembly Secretary and Returning Officer, Thiru C.K. Ramaswamy, declared them elected as the number of candidates was equal to the number of vacancies.

Speech of

Tmt. SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN
Minister for Social Welfare and Rural Industries

President,
TamilNadu Khadi and Village Industries Board,
Madras.

AT THE ALL INDIA INDUSTRY MINISTERS CONFERENCE ON RURAL INDUSTRIALISATION

AT VIGYAN BHAVAN

NEW DELHI

ON

8TH JULY 1989

HON'BLE Union Minister for Industry, Minister of State for Industrial Development, Chairman, Khadi and Village Industries Commission, Ministers from other States, Friends,

It gives me great pleasure to participate in this conference on behalf of the Government of TamilNadu. When we are on the threshold of implementing the Eighth Five Year Plan, it is most appropriate that at this juncture, we review the various problems facing rural industrialisation in our country. The fact that the Ministry of Industry has thought it fit to convene a meeting under the Chairmanship of the Union Industries Minister goes to show the great importance being given to rural industrialisation.

On assumption of office, the TamilNadu Government under the leadership of our dynamic Chief Minister has focused its attention on rural industrialisation and has paid special attention to the generation of employment opportunities in rural areas. This being one of our thrust areas for the future I am particularly happy to participate in this meeting and share the experiences of the State of TamilNadu with all of you as well as to place before you my reactions to some of the issues raised in the agenda.

We have given pride of place to the Village Industries and Khadi sector. In 1988-89 alone the production in the Village Industries sector through the TamilNadu Khadi and Village Industries Board was to the tune of Rs.195.15 crores. The State has so far provided employment to 8.60 lakhs artisans through the activities of the Board. Of this 1.22 lakhs are artisans belonging to Scheduled Castes and Tribes. During 1989-90 the Board has an ambitious plan of providing employment to 1 lakh artisans under various industries of the Khadi and Village Industries sector.

RURAL INDUSTRIALISATION

We wholly support the move towards a cluster approach in establishing of Village Industries. In fact, in TamilNadu it has been the practice to promote rural industries in selected districts and blocks so that there is an over all development of the area and linkages are properly established.

Inclusion of 34 New Industries into the Khadi and Village Industries sector is also a welcome addition. To enable the Village Industries sector to make maximum use of the benefits now extended by this inclusion and to provide more employment opportunities to rural artisans, apart from state owned corporations which would be readily willing to farm out manufacture of components to the Village Industries sector, large public sector undertakings under the Central Government should also be directed to patronise this sector so that the production of rural ancillary units can be underwritten and in turn ensure employment potential in the sector. The liberal fiscal concessions available to the Khadi and Village Industries sector should be able to attract large undertakings to patronise this sector for labour oriented programmes. Supply of raw-materials to the Khadi and Village Industries sector should be made on a preferential basis so that artisans do not suffer for want of raw-materials.

The need for tapping funds from ongoing programmes like, TRYSEM, RLEGP, NREP, IRDP has been pointed out. In this context, I would like to

state that TamilNadu is a fore-runner in utilising funds from various on-going programmes of the State Governments like IRDP, DPAP, SCA, ITDP etc. The training of artisans under the regular programmes of the Board has always been undertaken with TRYSEM funds. Nearly Rs.84.69 lakhs has been utilised so far under TRYSEM for training 11,280 artisans. IRDP funds under infrastructure development has been optimally utilised by the TNK&VI Board for various items like construction of godowns, worksheds, purchase of machinery and equipments, purchase of vehicles, construction of export outlets etc. Nearly two crores of rupees have been utilised by the State Board from IRDP funds for the above mentioned activities. The State Board has also been implementing special programmes in 3 districts by combining funds under IRDP, SCP and KVIC so as to cover more number of artisans in particular blocks of the 3 selected districts of Ramanathapuram, Pasumpon Thevar Thirumagan and Tirunelveli Kattabomman districts. Funds required for these programmes are set apart by the District Collector at the time of formulating the block plans for the district. Thereafter the funds are placed at the disposal of the State Board for implementation of KVI programmes. It should also be highlighted that the funds under IRDP are made available on cent per cent subsidy basis for KVI sector.

The need to co-ordinate with activities undertaken under RLEGP and NREP has also been stressed. I would like to point out that in both these programmes rural housing has been taken up as a priority sector. Many of the building materials utilised for such large housing programmes like bricks, tiles, doors and windows, lime are all activities undertaken under the KVI fold. These materials should be exclusively procured from the KVI sector so as to ensure more employment opportunities for rural artisans.

POLICY SUPPORT

I fully endorse the points made in the agenda regarding the need for a greater policy support for the Khadi and Village Industries Sector. I would even go further and recommend that all items made by the Khadi and Village Industries Sector should be made the exclusive monopoly of this sector and there should be no overlap between items manufactured by Khadi and Village Industries sector and SSI units. Only this will ensure that the Khadi and Village Industries products survive and are marketed successfully. I am happy to point out that the Government of TamilNadu has extended several policy supports which has enabled the TamilNadu Khadi and Village Industries Board to grow and enlarge its activities through the years. These include amongst other things (1) exemption from sales tax on the sale of Khadi and Village Industries Products, (2) exemption from sales tax at purchase point on Silk Cotton and groundnut kernals (3) exemption from shops and establishments act, (4) exemption from payment of stamp duty and registration fees by industrial co-operatives under the Khadi and Village Industries fold, (5) Exemption from payment of stamp duty to individual artisans (6) Exemption from bonus Act etc.

Further details regarding this has been circulated for your benefit in a separate booklet.

MARKETING STRATEGY

Marketing still remains the weakest link in the implementation of the

Khadi and Village Industries programme. It is heartening to note that this item has received special attention in today's agenda. The TamilNadu Government has extended a liberal purchase policy of Khadi and Village Industries products in the State. In fact Khadi and Village Industries products are given first preference for any Government purchases and are placed outside the formalities of calling for tenders etc. This has provided a big boost to the sector in the State. However with the tremendous growth that has taken place in this sector within the State, it has become necessary for the State Board and other Institutions to look for the same marketing support and preference from the large Central Government Departments / undertakings functioning within the State. I would therefore request that the same measure of purchase preference extended to this sector by the Central Government also. I would also like to emphasise export of selected products in other developing countries should be done more vigorously by the Government of India. For example export of leather goods and palm leaf products have tremendous marketing potential in the middle East and Far Eastern Countries.

As pointed out in the agenda, the State Government has been extending 10% rebate for 90 days in a year on the sale of Khadi products. The State Government has so far spent nearly Rs.15 crores as rebate from 1975-76 to 1988-89.

Marketing of products should go hand in hand with aggressive propaganda and publicity for our products. The Khadi and Village Industries Commission should come forward with liberal assistance to the State Boards for publicity and propaganda. I feel that the Government of India should provide concessional rate of tariff for Khadi and Village Industries products for advertising over television, radio and railway coaches. This will enable these products to compete with the private sector on equal terms.

I endorse the idea of setting up a Marketing Development Corporation under Khadi and Village Industries Commission. This Corporation should pay special attention to boosting up of inter-state sales of Khadi and Village Industries products. It is noticed that items purchased by the Khadi and Village Industries sector in one state are in large demand in another state, but adequate exchange of products does not take place for want of an intermediary agency to undertake this operation.

STRENGTHENING OF STATE BOARDS

In accordance with the paramount importance paid to the KVI sector, the TamilNadu Government has established a fullfledged Khadi and Village Industries Board with an administrative set up upto the district level. The TamilNadu Government is sanctioning nearly Rs.2.50 crores towards establishment cost of staff engaged in non trading activities. Since the State Government is already bearing a huge burden on staff expenditure, I would plead that further technical support for the State Boards, which is absolutely necessary considering the inclusion of new industries, should be made by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission.

SC & ST PARTICIPATION

The KVI programme is a potential tool which if properly utilised can effectively bring about participation of SC & STs in the main stream of rural industrialisation. This programme has made a great impact in breaking the barriers of caste and community and integrating people of all communities in rural employment programmes. The experience of the TamilNadu State Board has been an exceptionally rich one in this sector. Today out of 8.60 lakhs artisans assisted by the State Board, nearly 1.22 lakhs are SC/ST artisans. These artisans have been covered under all industries undertaken by the State Board and are not confined to any particular industries. In training programmes undertaken under TRYSEM, the State Board ensures that a minimum of 50 per cent beneficiaries belong to SC/ST. In order to bring non-traditional artisans belonging to SC into traditional spheres of activity the State Board has fully utilised funds available under Special Central Assistance to set up various units and impart various training programmes for the benefit of Scheduled Castes. It may be pointed out here that from 81-82 upto 88-89 the State Board has utilised Rs.17.73 crores under SCA to cover 29,501 beneficiaries under a host of programmes ranging from spinning, weaving, carpentry and blacksmithy, handmade paper making, shampoo making and hand knitting. The State Board has also utilised funds under Tribal Sub Plan for providing employment opportunities to tribals. So far 5907 tribals have been benefited with a financial outlay of Rs.171.34 lakhs.

The Central Government makes available central assistance to the State Governments for uplift of scheduled castes. A substantial percentage of these funds may be earmarked for providing employment opportunities for scheduled castes exclusively through the Khadi and Village Industries sector.

PARTICIPATON OF WOMEN

As rightly pointed out this sector remains a large arena for employment of women. The Tamil Nadu State Board has so far provided employment to 3.31 lakhs of women artisans. Spinning and weaving are largely dominated by women. They are also engaged in other village industries which do not require heavy manual labour.

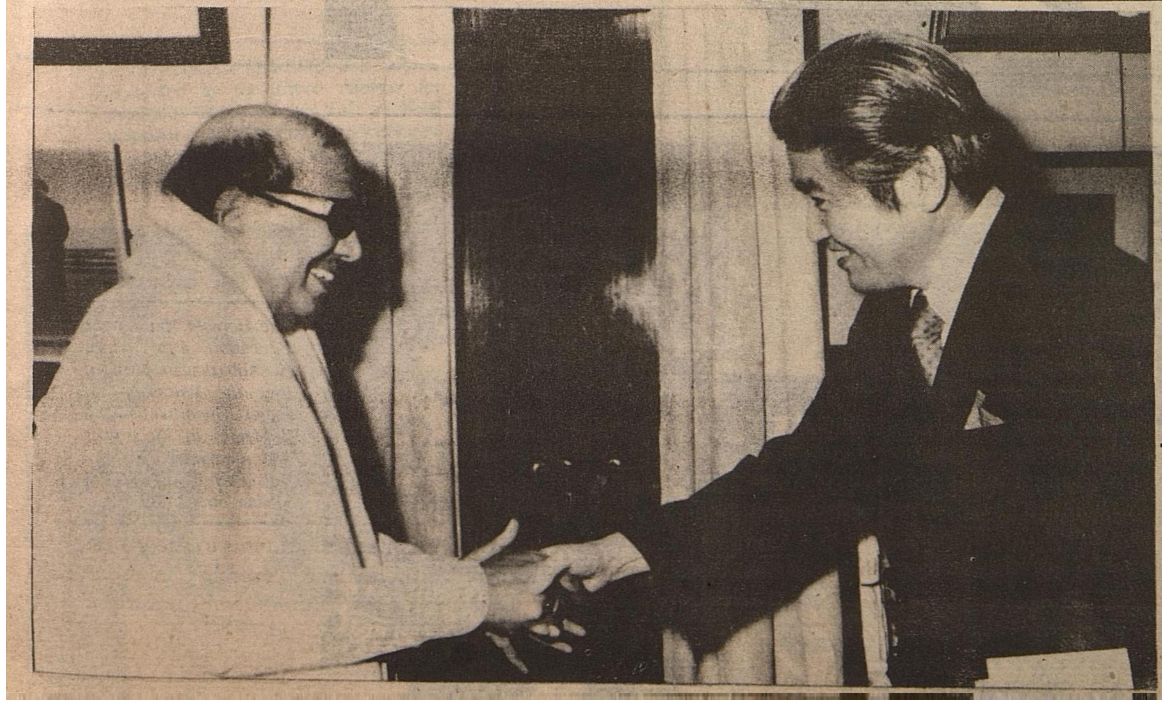
In order to encourage women to come into non-traditional areas and also further to increase their participation, I would suggest that a separate pattern of assistance for women artisans may be framed so as to attract more numbers. The linkage with the women's welfare corporation is certainly possible as in the case of the SC development corporation. In fact the TamilNadu State Board has prepared a shelf of projects for funding from the State Women Development Corporation. During 1988-89 as much as Rs.30 lakhs was also obtained from Special Central Assistance for benefiting 1220 women artisans in various trades.

I am sure that the suggestions placed before this meeting will receive immediate attention. This forum has indeed provided an opportunity for states to exchange their views, to appraise themselves of developments in the Khadi and Village Industries sector all over the country and also to lay the directions for the future. The importance of this sector in the development of the country as a whole cannot be over-emphasized and it is in the fitness of the things that we have met today to analyse the problems of the future.

His Excellency the Governor of Tamil Nadu Dr. P.C. Alexander, addressed the Annual General body meeting of Tamil Nadu State Legal Aid and Advisory Board on 8.7.89

NEWS IN PICTURES

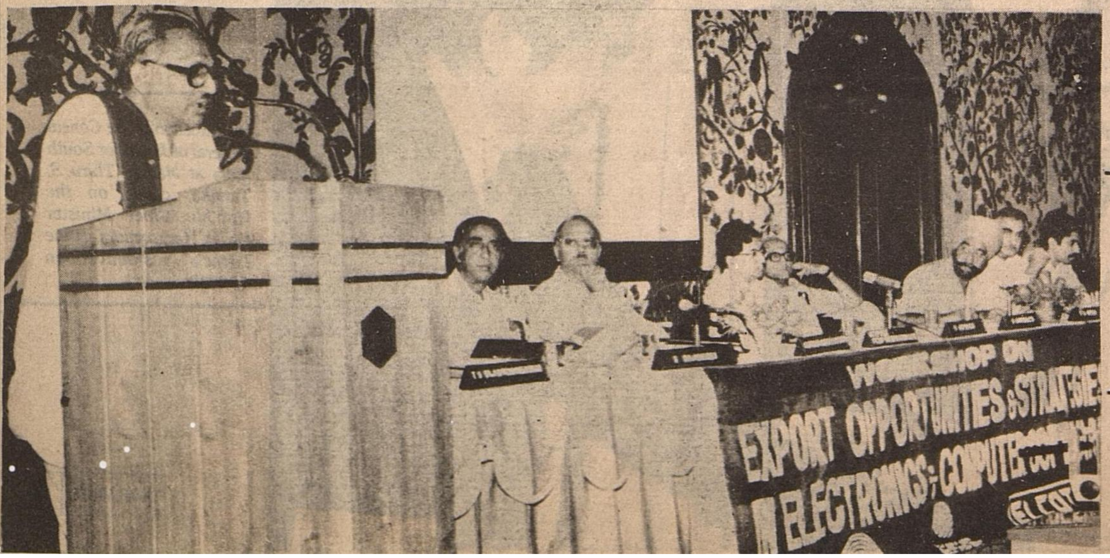
Adhoc Committee on the Questions of Subject Committee of West Bengal Legislative Assembly called on Dr. Tamilkudimagan, the Hon'ble Speaker, Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 17.7.89 at Secretariat.



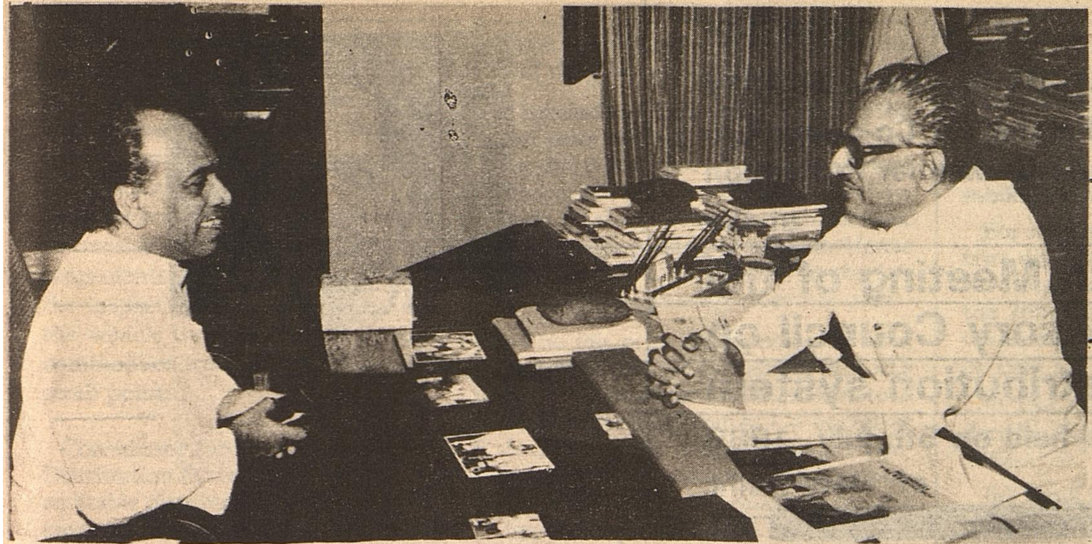
His Excellency the Consul General of Japan for South India at Madras Thiru S. Tanaka, called on the Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. M. Karunanidhi, at the latter's residence on 12.7.89.

The Hon'ble Union Minister for Energy Thiru. Vasant Sathe inaugurated the Seminar on National Growth through National Gas, lighting the kuthuvilakku on 8.7.89. The Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. M. Karunanidhi presided over the Seminar.

Sri Lankan Rural Industrial Development Minister, Thiru S. Thondaman met the Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. M. Karunanidhi on 12th July, 1989 at Chief Minister's residence.

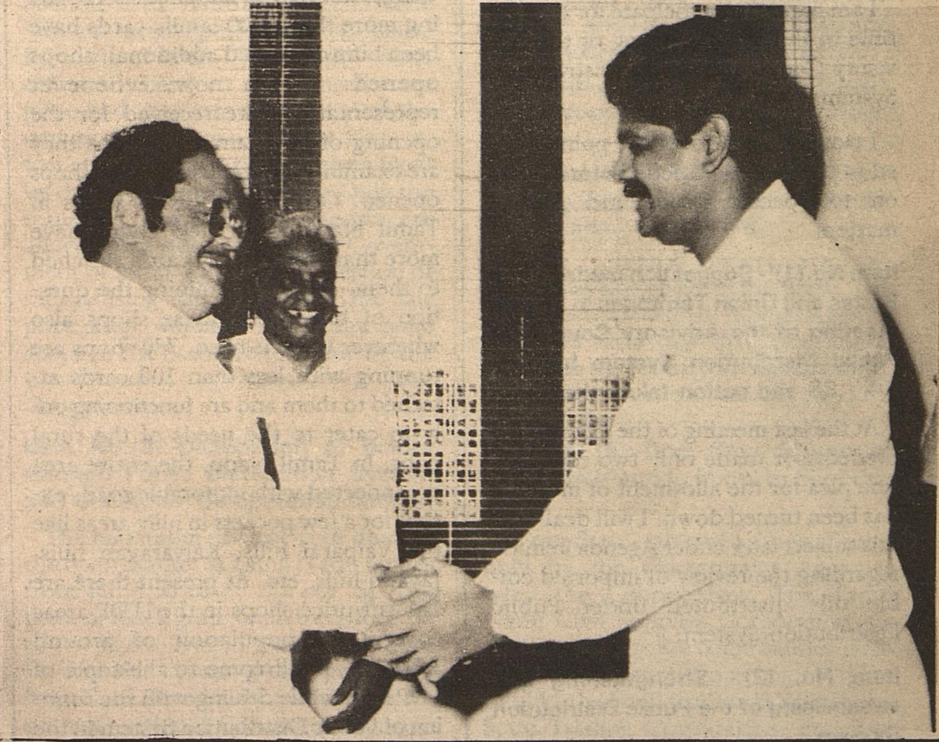


The Hon'ble Minister for Education, Prof. Thiru K. Anbazhagan presided over the Workshop on Export Opportunities and Strategies in Electronics and Computer Software organised by ELCOT at Madras on 10.7.89.



Thiru R. Jayasinghe, Deputy High Commissioner of Sri Lanka called on the Hon'ble Education Minister Thiru K. Anbazhagan on 15.7.89 at his Chamber.

Thiru Ramnarayan Reddy, the Hon'ble Minister for Public Works Department, Andhra Pradesh called on Thiru Duraimurugan, the Hon'ble Minister for Public Works Department, on 5.7.89 at Secretariat.



The Third National Fish SEED Congress was inaugurated by the Union Minister for Agriculture, Thiru. Bhajan Lal, at Hotel Connemara on 8.7.89. Dr. K. Chandrasekaran, the Hon'ble Minister for Animal Husbandry presided.

Speech of
Thiru Arcot N. Veerasamy
Minister for Co-operation, Food and Consumer Protection
at the
Tenth Meeting of the Advisory Council on Public Distribution system
held on 5th July, 1989 at New Delhi

Honourable Chairman and Honourable Members of the Council,

I am happy to participate for the first time in the tenth meeting of the Advisory Council on Public Distribution System.

I would like to cover the points raised in the Agenda briefly before I pass on to Specific issues and general matters.

Item No.(1):- Suggestion made by the States and Union Territories in the 9th meeting of the Advisory Council on Public Distribution System held on 14.7.88 and action taken thereon.

At the last meeting of the Council my predecessor made only two requests. The plea for the allotment of more oil has been turned down. I will deal with this subject later under Agenda item (9) regarding the review of imported edible oils distributed under Public Distribution System.

Item No. (2):- Strengthening and streamlining of the Public Distribution System

A well-organised Public Distribution System is maintained in Tamil Nadu. There are 21,134 fair price shops in the State catering to the needs of about 129 lakh cardholders. No private person has been allowed to run fair price shops in this State and only the Co-operatives are running them. Of these shops, 17,382 shops function in the rural areas and 3,752 in urban areas. In 1978, the one village one fair price shop scheme was launched and a fair price shop was opened in each inhabited revenue village. In places where there are natural barriers, an additional fair price shop was opened in the same revenue village. In 1984, all fair price shops having more than 1000 family cards have been bifurcated and additional shops opened Even now, whenever representations are received for the opening of new fair price shops they are examined on merits and new shops opened. Out of the 21,134 shops in Tamil Nadu, only 3093 shops have more than 1000 family cards attached to them. We are examining the question of bifurcating these shops also wherever there is need. 780 shops are running with less than 100 cards attached to them and are functioning only to cater to the needs of the rural poor. In Tamil Nadu, the entire area is connected with motorable roads except for a few pockets in hilly areas like the Valparai hills, Kalvarayan hills, Javadu hills, etc. At present there are 151 fair price shops in the ITDP areas covering a population of around 1,74,076. I will come to the topic of ITDP later while dealing with the running of Public Distribution System in the ITDP areas.

The Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation acts as a wholesaler and takes delivery of Government of India allotment of rice, sugar, edible oils etc, for distribution through Public Distribution points. 29 cooperative wholesale stores and 35 other societies which act as lead societies, lift the controlled commodities from the Food Corporation of India and Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation and supply the same to the 21,134 fair price shops for distribution in the rural and urban areas. At the District level, the Collectors are monitoring the running of fair price shops, while in Madras city and its belt areas, this is done by the Deputy Commissioners of Civil Supplies. There is a separate police wing for enforcing the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and the control orders issued under this Act from time to time. The overall supervision of the fair price shops is exercised by the Commissioner of Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection. Coordination meetings are conducted by the Commissioner every month with officers from both State Government andGovernment of India agencies connected with civil supplies and Public Distribution System. At the Secretariat level, review meetings are conducted every week.

I have instructed the Inspection officers and flying squard officials to go on their rounds a little earlier every day to ensure the opening of the shops at the stipulated time. I have given necessary instructions for eliminating other complaints received against the fair price shop personnel (viz) the non-exhibition of stock boards, non-maintenance of registers, leakage of commodities, unauthorised entries in the family cards, compelling the consumers to buy non controlled commodities, etc. Whenever the shop personnel are found involved in such malpractices, immediate action is taken against them. Complaints have been received about the leakage of essential commodities, particularly rice, even as it is being moved from godown/lead societies to the retail points. My surprise inspections to the godowns also

confirmed this.' I have issued instructions to closely monitor the movement of commodities right from godown/lead societies to the retail outlets. Arrangements have been made for checking the weight of the commodities both at the loading point and the receiving end. In cases of doubt, arrangements have been made for one of the inspecting officers to accompany the vehicle transporting the essential commodites from the godown to the retail points.

Considering the importance of Public Distribution System and the need for equitable distribution of essential commodities to the cardholders in the State, it is necessary to keep the fair price shops under strict and continuous surveillance to avoid pilferage and other malpractices. Keeping this in view, Government have fixed monthly targets for all enforcement officials for inspection of fair price shops, verification of family cards, etc. As soon as I took charge as Food Minister, I inspected various godowns and fair price shops in the State and found irregularities like shortage, underweighment, etc. These checks have yielded good results and complaints about the non-availability of essential commodities in Public Distribution System have largely come down. I have instructed that from 1-3-89 no consumer should be made to come again and again for the purchase of essentil commodities and that all the commodities should be distributed to him or her on the same days. As soon as a new District is formed and a post of District Supply Officer is created, we provide a jeep at the time of formation itself. All the District Supply Officers in the Districts and the Asst. Commissioners in the city have a jeep each for inspection and monitoring the Public Distribution System.

The total number of family cards in circulation at present is 129 lakhs. The population arrived at as per the entries in the family cards all over the state differs widely from the population estimted by the Census Department. This may be partly due to the prevalance of bogus cards and also due to inflated entries in the cards. About 80,000 bogus family cards have been detected in Madras city alone. We have decided to conduct fresh enumeration and issue new family cards with effect from 1-1-1990. This will automatically eliminate bogus cards leading to a drop in the number of family cards in the State. The Public distribution system will thus be further streamlined.

Instructions have been issued to the fair price shops to the effect that they can lift 80% of the quantity consumed during the previous month before the 25th of the previous month without waiting for passing of indents. Hence the question of 'stock out' in the fair price shops generally does not arise.

The fair price shop personnel send particulars on the availability of stocks to the district officials which is in turn sent to the Registrar of Co-operative Societies every month. We are considering the question of coumputerising feed back information on the functioning of the PDS.

In the Southern States, people consume more rice while wheat is consumed more in the Northern States. Hence I do not think it possible to rationalise the scale of issue. There is not much difference between the Central issue price and the State issue price of the commodities since no market fees, octroi etc. are added to the prices fixed by the Government of India. Only the transport and handling charges are added to the price fixed by the Government of India. There is no question of rationalising the margins to the fair price shop owners as all the fair price shops in the State are run only by the Government agencies (viz) the Cooperatives.

Item No.(3):-Distribution of pulses through Public Distribution System and Consumer Co-operative outlets.

The maximum price of Toor dhall in the open market in Tamil Nadu ranges from Rs. 8.50 to Rs. 12 per kg. The price of Black gram dhall from Rs.8.50 to Rs. 11.50, Bengal gram dhall from Rs. 9 to Rs. 11 and green gram dhall from Rs. 9.80 to Rs. 12.50. There is no proposal with this Government for selling pulses through the Public Distribution System. This suggestion may be tried if the Government of India come forward to procure and allot pulses to the States at subsidised prices. Even now, the Consumer Cooperatives in our State are selling pulses through their outlets.

Item No. (4):-Review of the implementation of the Essential Commodites Act, 1955.

For strict enforcement, equitable and fair distribution of essential commodities and to regulate their supplies, the following control orders issued under the Essential Commodities Act of 1955 are in force in Tamil Nadu.

(i) The Tamil Nadu Essential Trade Articles (Regulation of Trade) Order, 1854:

(ii) Tamil Nadu Sugar Regulation of Trade Order, 1981

(iii) Tamil Nadu Kerosene Regulation of Trade Order 1973:

(iv) Tamil Nadu Essential Commodities (display of Stocks, Price and Maintenance of Accounts) Order 1977:

(v) Tamil Nadu Scheduled Articles (Prescription of Standards) Order, 1977,

(vi) Tamil Nadu Scheduled Commodities (Regulation of Distribution by Card system) Order, 1982:

These Control orders are implemented effectively in this State. The particulars furnished in the Agenda Note will show that this State stands second in the country in implementing the control orders effectively and successfully.

Item No. (5):-Door Step delivery of Public Distribution Items to fair price shops.

In our State, fair price shops are run only by the Government Agencies (viz.) the Cooperatives. The Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation, as wholesaler, lifts the commodities from the various Central Government Agencies like the Food Corporation of India, State Trading Corporation, etc. The Lead Societies lift the commodities from the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation godown and distribute them at the door steps of the fair price shops.

Electronic Equipment to detect overspeeding

The city traffic police have acquired an electronic equipment to detect overspeeding.

Handy and portable, it is capable of detecting the speed of a vehicle at a distance of even one Km. It is operated by a rechargeable battery.

Panel to select films for grant of subsidy

The Tamil Nadu Government on July 15th announced a seven member committee headed by Thiru P. Duraisamy, Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly to select quality Tamil films produced on a low budget for grant of Government subsidy.

The members of the committee are Thiru Ku. Ma Balasubramaniam, Member Secretary, Tamil Nadu Eyal Isai Nataka Mandram, Tmt. Jayanthi, Secretary, Information and Tourism Department, Tmt. Susan Mathew, Director, Tourism Department, Thiru. C. Ayyasamy, Deputy Secretary, Home Department, Thiru R. Tamilmani, Joint Commissioner, Commercial Tax Department and Thiru A. Rajasekaran, Principal, Tamil Nadu Film and Television Institute.

The committee will function for a year and will consider quality Tamil films released after January, 1, 1989.

Item No.(6):-Review of the Scheme of distribution of subsidised food grains in ITDP areas.

There are 9 Blocks under the ITDP Scheme in our State in 5 Districts (viz.) North Arcot, South Arcot, Dharmapuri, Tiruchirapalli and Salem. There are 151 fair price shops in these blocks and a population of around 1,74,070 is covered by about 38,287 family cards. Wheat is distributed at the rate of 30 kilograms per card at a subsidised price of Rs. 1.64 per kilogram and rice at the rate of 4 kilogram per adult and 2 kilogram per child per month subject to a maximum of 12 Kgs. per card at the subsidised rate of Rs. 1.40 per kilogram. The proposal of this Government for the sanction of Rs. 64 lakhs for the construction of godowns in ITDP areas was turned down. The Government of India have requested us to renew our proposal for the sanction of Rs. 65 lakhs for purchasing mobile vans in the ITDP areas for consideration in 1989-90. The proposals are under preparation and will be forwarded soon.

The State Civil Supplies Corporation has godowns in all the Taluks. The points for consideration mentioned in the Agenda notes have already been covered.

Item No. (7):- Intensive monitoring availability and prices of selected essential commodities.

Our Government are regularly monitoring the prices of essential commodities in the open market. Action is taken under various Acts and other control orders to keep the prices of these commodities under control. I am getting a list of the prices of various commodities in the open market every week and review them. Apart from the controlled commodities about 32 non-controlled commodities are sold in the fair price shops. The Co-operatives help in a big way to contain the prices of essential commodities in the open market by intervening in the market by purchasing and selling items through their outlets. Recently rice and chillies were sold by the Co-operatives at prices lower than those prevailing in open market in an effort to bring down their prices.

Item No. (8):-Distribution of Controlled Cloth.

During the year 1984, the National Consumers Cooperative Federation of India had a huge stock of Controlled Cloth. The Federation approached the Tamil Nadu Consumers Cooperative Federation and supplied 8,000 bales of controlled cloth worth Rs. 2.65 crores on credit. The State Federation with great difficulty liquidated the stock, mostly on credit. The State Federation has not been able to collect the outstandings from its constituents. Even now Rs. 5.50 lakhs worth of stock remains unsold. The State Federation has so far paid Rs. 215.37 lakhs and the outstanding dues now is Rs. 49.63 lakhs.

The State Federation is now reeling under steep financial crisis. A committee has been constituted with Additional Registrar (Consumer Activities) as Chairman to suggest measures to extricate it from the present imbroglio. The State Federation is not now in a position to repay the amount. It has invested Rs. 42.40 lakhs in the share capital of the National Federation. The State Federation has suggested that Rs. 40 lakhs out of the amount of Rs. 42.40 lakhs might be adjusted towards the dues for controlled cloth and the balance amount collected in instalments. This suggestion has not yet been agreed to by the National Federation.

Item No. (9):- Review of imported edible oils distributed under Public Distribution System.

The quantity of allotment of edible oil which was 10,000 Metric Tonnes per month during September and October last year has been reduced gradually and now only 1,000 Metric Tonnes per month is being allotted. There are 129 lakhs family cards in this State and even if one kilogram of oil is issued to a family card holder per month, we need 13,000 Metric Tonnes per month. In our State due to insufficient rain during the North East Monsoon period, there was significant fall in the production of groundnut oil and gingelly oil seeds. Consequently their prices have increased in the open market. Moreover, the demand for Palmolein through the Public Distribution System in urban areas of the State is high since people have become accustomed to the use of Palmolein. The present allotment of 500 Metric Tonnes of pouched oil to Hindustan Vegetable Oil Corporation is also not enough to maintain the unit. Unless the allotment is increased, the unit of Hindustan Vegetable Oil Corporation at Madras and of Tamil Nadu Cooperative Oilseeds Growers Federation to which no allotment was made for two consecutive months, would remain idle. I have already addressed the Union Food Minister in this regard to step up the allotment to our State.

General:-

Now I would like to take up some general issues.

The major hurdle in the effective running of the Public Distribution System is the non-availability and timely availability of the commodities. Rice, edible oil, sugar and kerosene allotted by the Government of India are not

sufficient to meet the requirement of the family cardholders. Unless sufficient quantities of essential commodities is made available on time to meet the requirements of Public Distribution System, complaints about the shortages and malpratices are bound to arise despite relentless supervision and check. I have written to the Government of India separately for the allotment of more rice, sugar, edible oil and kerosene.

Several fair price shops in the State run in hired buildings and a huge amount is incurred towards their rent and also for paying rent advance. Fair price shops are permanent features and if own buildings are constructed they will be a permanent asset. As it is, construction of fair price shop does not find a place in the item permitted for works under NREP. If the Government of India allow the State to construct fair price shops from the NREP or RLEGP funds allotted to the States, it will be of immense help for the effective running of fair price shops.

However, I would urge the Government of India to consider the following points which are vital for the proper and smooth functioning of the P D S.

Our Government has introduced various welfare schemes for the poor and the downtrodden. Apart from distributing 5 Kilograms rice free of cost to all cardholders whose monthly income is Rs.300/- and below within the existing scale of rice supply through the PDS, we have announced relief to farmers who are unable to repay their overdues to Banks. We have increased the old age pension from Rs.35/- to Rs.50/- p.m. To make the Noon Meal Programme more nutritious in content, we have decided to provide an egg twice a month to every child benefitting by this scheme. However, notwithstanding all these welfare schemes, we are still not able to meet and satisfy what touches the people the most: namely, adequate supply of essential commodities through the PDS. As against our monthly requirement of 1.6 lakh tonnes of rice per month, the Government of India's allotment is only 40,000 tonnes which meets only 25% of our requirements. In view of the poor rice stock position with the State Civil Supplies Corporation and the anxiety that we may have to face a critical situation around October this year, we had requested Government of India's permission to purchase 3 lakh tonnes of rice from the open market from other rice producing States. But Government of India gave permission to purchase only 1.5 lakh tonnes. I would request the Government of India either to make availble more rice for distribution through the PDS especially for rice eating States like Tamil Nadu by importing adequate quantity of rice or by permitting the States themselves to resort to such import. Alternatively, Government of India may permit as a policy, the needy States to procure rice from the surplus States as a measure of inter-State assistance without insisting upon the States to obtain Government of India clearance every time. This policy would not only be beneficial to the needy States in respect of rice alone but also when the need arises for other essential commodities like edible oils. Thus while Tamil Nadu or Gujarat may help other needy States in providing groundnut oil in times of plenty, so also, rice surplus States like Andhra Pradesh or Haryana may freely help needy States like ours or West Bengal in providing rice.

While referring to the subject of edible oil, and its decreasing allotment to the States, I would like to stress that urgent measures must be taken for continuing its supply through the PDS. We understand that in order to reduce the import bill of Rs. 1,000 crores per annum on edible oil alone, Government of India have decided not to import oils but to encourage indigenous production of oilseeds and thereby help the farmers. This no doubt is a positive move. However, I would request that Government of India themselves may arrange to procure the edible oils and arrange to supply the same through the PDS at subsidised rates. Otherwise, the open market price of edible oils which is stable at the moment may tend to increase sharply causing much hardship to the people.

So far as sugar is concerned, the allotment made to the States on the basis of 425 gms per capita is hardly sufficient. In fact, the monthly sugar allotment made to Tamil Nadu meets hardly 73% of its requirements. I understand that in New Delhi, levy sugar is distributed at the rate of 800 gms per capita. I would request that sugar be allotted to the States also on the same scale. In case of inadequacy, Government of India may also arrange to import and supply sugar through the PDS.

Though in Tamil Nadu, we are not distributing cement and LPG through the PDS, I would like to state that in view of the rising prices of cement following its decontrol with effect from 1st March of this year, there is a strong case for reintroducing levy on cement so that it is made freely available at controlled prices for the various construction programmes of the Government. As regards LPG distribution, certain amendments to the LPG Control Order introduced last year have been proposed to the Government of India vesting powers of entry and seizure with officials of the State Government. I would request that the same may be approved early so that the distribution of LPG could be properly made.

I take this opportunity to thank you and the Government of India for all the support received by Tamil Nadu in handling the Public Distribution System successfully.

Co-operation is between equals not as between barons and beggars.

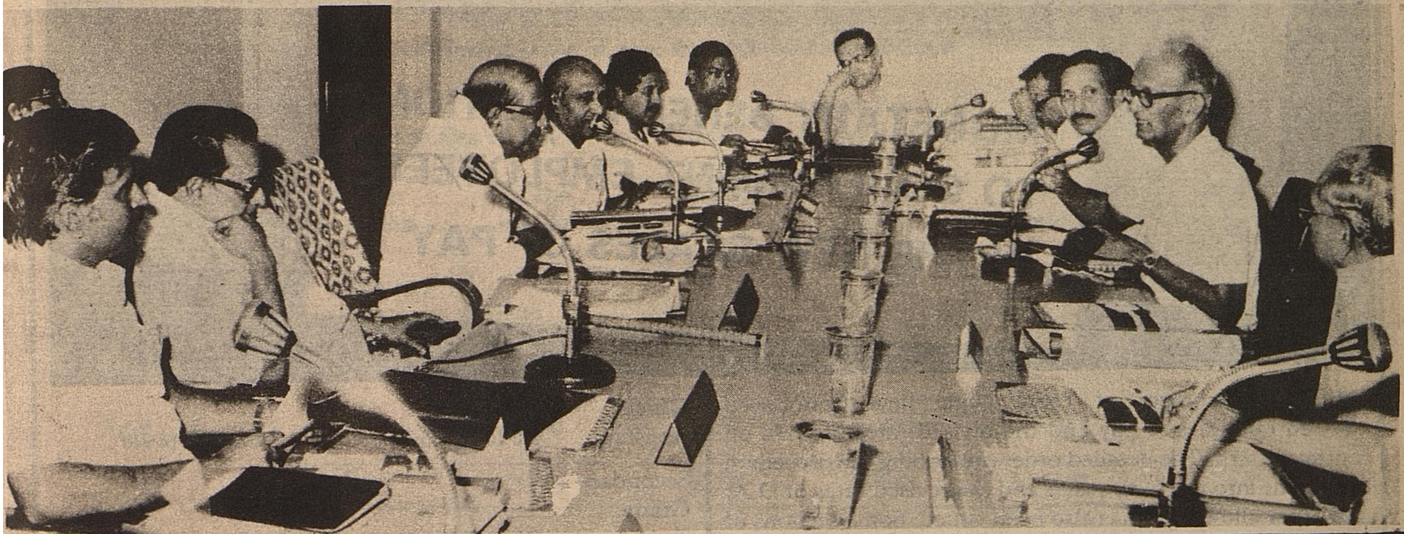
—Perarignar Anna

Collectors Conference

At the District Collectors Conference held at Madras on 14th July 1989, The Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, Dr. M. Karunanidhi exhorted the Collectors to gear up the official machinery to accomplish the following ends —

- ★ **Expedition of Drought Relief Works**
- ★ **Providing Drinking Water in the affected areas**
- ★ **Provision of employment to the people in the Drought-hit villages**
- ★ **Inspection of the working of the Fair Price Shops**
- ★ **Educating the people on the features of the Welfare Schemes**
- ★ **Devoting attention on Small Savings Collection**

The First Meeting of the State Planning Commission



Expert groups set up to work on State Plan

NEARLY 20 special working groups have been set up as part of the Tamil Nadu Planning Commission to prepare separate plans for the various sectors such as agriculture, irrigation, industry, power and education and help formulate the State Eighth Five Year Plan.

These groups have been asked to submit their proposals within the next three months so that the framework for the total plan, which is likely to be between Rs. 8,500 crores and Rs. 11,500 crores, is got ready well before the discussions with the Union Planning Commission in November-December.

The decision to set up sectoral working groups was taken at the first meeting of the reconstituted State Planning Commission held at Madras on July 12th with the Chief Minister Dr. M. Karunanidhi, presiding. The Commission Members Dr. Malcolm S. Adisheshiah, Dr. V. C. Kulandaiswamy, Thiru M. Sivagnanam, Dr. Ramani Sivaraman, Thiru R. Thirumalai and Thiru G. Chidambaram took part in the two-hour discussion.

The Revenue Minister, Thiru K. Manoharan, the Health Minister, Dr. Ponmudi and the Electricity Minister, Thiru K. N. Nehru, attended the meeting. Besides the Chief Secretary, Thiru M. M. Rajendran, the Adviser to Chief Minister, Thiru S. Guhan, the Planning and Development Secretary, Thiru A. K. Venkatsubramaniam and the Finance Secretary, Thiru N. Narayanan, were among the others who were present.

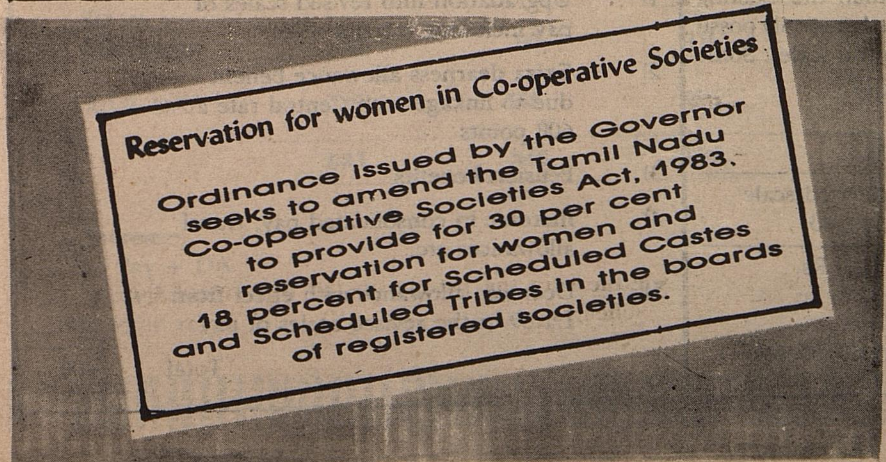
Briefing reporters, the Chief Secretary said that the Chief Minister had asked the Planning and Development Secretary to keep in touch with the Secretary of the Central Planning Commission to give inputs from the State Plan to the overall Plan of the Government of India and similarly get feedback for the preparation of the State Plan.

He said that of the various working groups approved by the Chief Minister, the one on Agriculture and allied sectors would be chaired by Dr. M. S. Swaminathan.

The working group on Rural Development would be headed by Dr. P. N. Poduwal (A former Senior Development Economist of the FAO) and that on Labour Welfare by Thiru G. Chidambaram.

Thiru M. Sivagnanam would lead the groups on Industries and Urban Development while Dr. K. Venkatasubramaniam, Vice-Chancellor, Central University, Pondicherry, would chair the group on Education.

The Science and Technology group would have Dr. V. C. Kulandaiswamy as its Chairman, and Dr. C. Gopalan would head the group on Nutrition, Dr. Malcolm Adisheshiah would chair the working group on Resources for the Plan. There would be working groups also for Power, Housing, Transport, Women and Child Welfare and Water Supply.



MONETARY BENEFIT POSITION TO GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES IN THE NEW SCALES OF PAY

THE Government of Tamil Nadu have announced Central scales of pay and the revised rates of D.A. on central pattern. The detailed order prescribing the procedure of fitment into the New scales and the revised rates of D.A. and other allowances has also been issued. Some sections of Government employees have raised certain points relating to the operation of the New scales and benefits. The position is clarified below. The Monetary benefit accruing to individual employees in different stages in the existing scale on fitment in the new scales will vary. Usually in a fitment procedure the persons at the minimum of the existing scale will stand to get slightly larger benefit. This is common in all fitment systems.

The minimum benefit of Rs. 100/- has ensured that those in the existing lower pay ranges get adequate benefit. For example, an Office Assistant, getting a pay of Rs. 450/- will thus get a fitment benefit of 22%. A Junior Assistant in the minimum of Rs. 610/- will get a fitment benefit of 16.4%. The Minimum of Rs. 100/- has ensured that the fitment benefit is on a tapering scale from 22% to a minimum of 10%.

The actual monetary benefit should be computed with reference to pay and dearness allowance taken together as the dearness allowance upto 608 points is merged in the revised scales of pay. The actual benefit for certain categories is computed and given in tables annexed.

As regards increment stages it should be noted that the Central scales have been adopted in full. Hence increment stages in the central scales have been followed. Increment stages in most revised scales are better than the existing stages. Since central scales have been adopted, it is only possible to go by the increment stages in the central scales. Some examples are as below:-

Post (1)	Present scale (2)	Revised scale (3)
	Rs.	Rs.
Junior Assistant	610-20-730-25-955-30-1075	975-25-1150-30-1660
Office Assistant	450-10-570-15-720	750-12-870-14-940
Secondary Grade Teacher	610-20-730-25-955-30-1075	1200-30-1560-40-2040

As regards special pay, the Pay Commission's recommendations have been accepted, in full. In order that no difficulty results to any employee, withdrawal of special pay for certain categories has been given effect to in a phased manner effective only from 1-6-1990.

In view of the major revision in scales of pay no maximum benefit has been prescribed as transition to the new scales are not possible with such a ceiling. However care has been taken to ensure that the ratio between the maximum of the highest scale of pay to the minimum of the lowest scale of pay is less than that existing at present. The existing ratio between the maximum in the highest scale and the minimum in the lowest scale is 9:1. This ratio decreases to 8:1 in the revised scale.

The additional commitment to the Government as indicated by the Pay Commission consisted of Rs. 262 crores per annum inclusive of the interim relief, pensionary benefits etc. The break up of the cost per annum for the benefits announced by Government is as below:

		(Rs. in crores)
1)	Upgradation into revised scales of pay including interim relief	195
2)	Extra dearness allowance benefit due to linkage with Central rate at 608 points	50
3)	Pension benefits	40
4)	Increase in consolidated pay, travel allowances etc.	27
5)	Dearness allowance with effect from 1.1.89 in the revised scales of pay	88
	Total	400

ANNEXURE

SECONDARY GRADE TEACHER

Present scale of pay: Rs. 610-20-730-25-955-35-1075
Revised central scale of pay: Rs. 1200-30-1560-40-2040

	Pay + DA as per present scales of pay			Latest Pay + DA as per revised scales of pay		
	At the minimum	At the middle	At the top	At the minimum	At the middle	At the top
Pay	610	830	1075	1200	1260	1350
DA at 608 points	92	125	161	—	—	—
Addl. DA	161	200	284	348	365	392
	863	**1175**	**1520**	**1548**	**1625**	**1742**
Increase in Pay + DA inclusive of interim relief				**685**	**450**	**222**

RECORD CLERK

Present scale of pay: Rs. 475-10-555-15-615-20-775
Revised central scale of pay: Rs. 775-12-955-14-1025

	Pay + DA as per old scale			Latest revised Pay + DA		
	At the minimum	At the middle	At the top	At the minimum	At the middle	At the top
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Pay	475	600	775	775	799	997
DA at 608 points	80	90	116	—	—	—
Addl. DA	128	158	205	225	232	289
	683	**848**	**1096**	**1000**	**1031**	**1286**
Increase in Pay + DA inclusive of interim relief				**317**	**183**	**190**

OFFICE ASSISTANT

Present scale of pay: Rs. 450-10-570-15-720
Revised central scale of pay: Rs. 750-12-870-14-940

	Pay + DA as per old scale			Latest revised Pay + DA		
	At the minimum	At the middle	At the top	At the minimum	At the middle	At the top
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Pay	450	570	720	750	774	940
DA at 608 points	80	86	108	—	—	—
Addl. DA	122	151	190	218	224	273
	652	807	1018	968	998	1213
Increase in Pay + DA inclusive of interim relief				316	191	195

C.M. announces concessions to Government employees

Rs.40,000 for death in harness

Families of the Tamil Nadu Government employees, who die in harness will get a lump sum of Rs.40,000 as family welfare fund instead of the present Rs.20,000.

Maternity leave with full pay

Women workers engaged in the nutritious meal scheme would hereafter get three months maternity leave with full pay and this would benefit 90,000 persons.

House Loan allocation raised

The allocation for giving housing loans to Government staff would be raised from Rs.13 crores to Rs.28 crores this year.

Medal for Punctuality

Permission to the staff to attend office one hour late three times a month is restored. The Government will present a medal to those who do not come late even once in the whole year.

The State Government has withdrawn a number of cases and departmental action benefiting more than 6,000 employess.

-30th June 1989

APPENDIX III

REVISED RATES OF DEARNESS ALLOWANCE ADMISSIBLE FROM IST JUNE 1988 ON REVISED PAY

Pay range.	*With effect from Ist June 1988*	*With effect from Ist July 1988*	*With effect from Ist January 1989*
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
750	135	173	218
762	137	175	221
774	139	178	224
775	140	178	225
786	141	181	228
787	142	181	228
798	144	184	231
799	144	184	232
800	144	184	232
810	146	186	235
811	146	187	235
815	147	187	236
822	148	189	238
823	148	189	239
825	149	190	239
830	149	191	241
834	150	192	242
835	150	192	242
840	151	193	244
845	152	194	245
846	152	195	245
847	152	195	246
855	154	197	248
858	154	197	249
859	155	198	249
860	155	198	249
870	157	200	252
871	157	200	253
875	158	201	254

Pay range	*With effect from Ist June 1988*	*With effect from Ist July 1988*	*With effect from Ist January 1989*
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
883	159	203	256
884	159	203	256
885	159	204	257
890	160	205	258
895	161	206	260
898	162	207	260
900	162	207	261
905	163	208	263
907	163	209	263
912	164	210	264
919	165	211	267
920	166	212	267
926	167	213	269
931	168	214	270
935	168	215	271
940	169	216	273
943	170	217	273
950	171	219	276
955	172	220	277
960	173	221	278
965	174	222	280
969	174	223	281
970	175	223	281
975	176	224	283
980	176	225	284
983	177	226	285
990	178	228	287
995	179	229	289
997	179	229	289

APPENDIX III-cont

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1,000	180	230	290
1,010	182	232	923
1,011	182	233	293
1,020	184	235	296
1,025	185	236	297
1,030	185	237	299
1,040	187	239	302
1,050	189	242	305
1,060	191	244	307
1,070	193	246	310
1,075	194	247	312
1,080	194	248	313
1,090	196	251	316
1,100	198	253	319
1,110	200	255	322
1,120	202	258	325
1,125	203	259	326
1,130	203	260	328
1,140	205	262	331
1,150	207	265	334
1,160	209	267	336
1,170	211	269	339
1,175	212	270	341
1,180	212	271	342
1,190	214	274	345
1,200	216	276	348
1,210	218	278	351
1,225	221	282	355
1,230	221	283	357
1,240	223	285	360
1,250	225	288	363
1,260	227	290	365
1,270	229	292	368
1,275	230	293	370
1,290	232	297	374
1,300	234	299	377
1,320	238	304	383
1,325	239	305	384
1,330	239	306	386
1,350	243	311	392

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1,360	245	313	394
1,375	248	316	399
1,380	248	317	400
1,390	250	320	403
1,400	252	322	406
1,410	254	324	409
1,420	256	327	412
1,425	257	328	413
1,440	259	331	418
1,450	261	334	421
1,470	265	338	426
1,475	266	339	428
1,480	266	340	429
1,500	270	345	435
1,510	272	347	438
1,520	274	350	441
1,530	275	352	444
1,540	277	354	447
1,560	281	359	452
1,570	283	361	455
1,600	288	368	464
1,630	293	375	473
1,640	295	377	476
1,650	297	380	479
1,660	299	382	481
1,680	302	386	487
1,700	306	391	493
1,720	310	396	499
1,750	315	403	508
1,760	317	405	510
1,800	324	414	522
1,820	328	419	528
1,840	331	423	534
1,850	333	426	537
1,880	338	432	545
1,900	342	437	551
1,920	346	442	557
1,940	349	446	563
1,950	351	449	566
1,960	353	451	568

APPENDIX III-cont

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
2,000	360	460	580
2,040	367	469	592
2,050	369	472	595
2,060	371	474	597
2,100	378	483	609
2,120	382	488	615
2,150	387	495	624
2,180	392	501	632
2,200	396	506	638
2,240	403	515	650
2,250	405	518	653
2,275	410	523	660
2,300	414	529	667
2,350	423	541	682
2,360	425	543	684
2,375	428	546	689
2,420	436	557	702
2,425	437	558	703
2,450	441	564	711
2,480	446	570	719
2,500	450	575	725
2,525	455	581	732
2,540	457	584	737
2,575	464	592	747
2,600	468	598	754
2,650	477	610	769
2,660	479	612	771
2,675	482	615	776
2,725	491	627	790
2,750	495	633	798
2,800	504	644	812
2,825	509	650	819
2,875	518	661	834
2,900	522	667	841
2,950	531	679	856
2,975	536	684	863
3,000	540	690	870
3,025	545	696	877
3,050	549	702	885
3,100	558	713	899
3,125	563	719	906
3,200	576	736	928
3,300	594	759	957
3,400	612	782	986
3,500 to 4,600	630	805	1,015
4,650	630	805	1,023
4,700	630	805	1,034
4,725	630	805	1,040
4,800	630	816	1,056
4,850	631	825	1,067
4,950	644	842	1,089
5,000	650	850	1,100
5,100	663	867	1,122
5,150	670	876	1,133
5,250	683	893	1,155
5,300	689	901	1,166
5,400	702	918	1,188
5,500	722	944	1,221
5,700	741	969	1,254

"We should kindle a fervour which will rouse the society as a whole and evoke from everyone his contribution towards the shaping of a new social order."

—**Anna**

APPENDIX-IX

Statement 1.

House Rent Allowance admissible in the revised pay range

Serial number and Pay Range (Rupees per Mensem)	*Amount of House Rent Allowance (Rupees per mensum)*			
	Grade I(a) Madras City and places around the City at a distance not exceeding 32 kms. from the City limits	*Grade I(b) Cities of Coimbatore and Madurai and places around them at a distance not exceeding 16 kms. from the city limits.*	*Places in Grade-II*	*Places in Grade-III*
(1)	(2) Rs.	(3) Rs.	(4) Rs.	(5) Rs.
1. Upto 899 ...	65	50	40	25
2. 900-1,149 ...	95	70	55	35
3. 1,150-1,399 ...	125	90	70	45
4. 1,400-1,599 ...	155	110	85	55
5. 1,600-1,849 ...	185	130	100	65
6. 1,850-2,099 ...	215	150	115	75
7. 2,100-2,399 ...	245	170	130	85
8. 2,400-2,599 ...	275	190	145	95
9. 2,600-2,799 ...	305	210	160	105
10. 2,800-3,099 ...	335	230	175	115
11. 3,100-3,399 ...	365	250	190	125
12. 3,400-3,599 ...	395	270	205	125
13. 3,600-3,899 ...	425	290	220	125
14. 3,900-4,099 ...	455	300	225	125
15. 4,100-4,299 ...	485	300	225	125
16. 4,300 and above ...	515	300	225	125

APPENDIX-X

City Compensatory Allowance admissible in the revised pay range

Serial number and pay range (Rupees per mensem)		*Amount of City Compensatory Allowance (Rupees per mensum)*	
		Madras City and areas around the City at a distance not exceeding 32 kms limits	*Cities of Coimbatore, Madurai, Salem and Tiruchirappalli and areas around them at a distance not exceeding 16 kms. from the City limits.*
(1)		(2) Rs.	(3) Rs.
1. Upto 899	...	40	25
2. 900-1,149	...	55	35
3. 1,150-1,399	...	70	45
4. 1,400-1,599	...	85	55
5. 1,600-1,849	...	100	65
6. 1,850-2,099	...	115	75
7. 2,100-2,399	...	130	85
8. 2,400-2,599	...	145	95
9. 2,600-2,799	...	160	105
10. 2,800-3,099	...	175	115
11. 3,100-3,399	...	190	125
12. 3,400-3,599	...	205	125
13. 3,600 and above	...	225	125

MINIMUM FITMENT BENEFIT RAISED

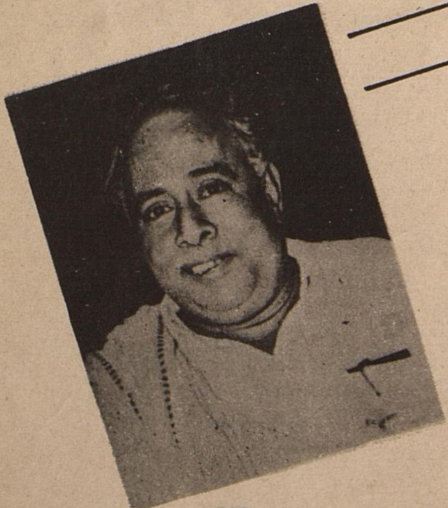
The Commitment to the Government on the implementation of the new scales of pay, on par with central pay is estimated at Rs.400 crores a year. The Government announced a minimum fitment benefit on 19th July, 1989, following the representations from employees' organisation pointing out that the benefits were inadequate, especially for senior staff.

The increase in the minimum fitment benefit comes as a gesture of good will on the part of the Government to ensure complete satisfaction among its employees and the new scales of pay have been enhanced to Rs.150 from Rs.100.

While implementing the 1984 Pay Commission recommendations, the minimum raise was Rs.30/-. At present the minimum raise is Rs.150/-. The quantum of dearness allowance is also increased.

The minimum increase in total emoluments for an employee (including allowances and interim relief) will go up from Rs.185 to 250. It will cost an additional expenditure of Rs.21.75 crores a year to the Government.

Tamil, Tamils and Tamil Nadu! Carry on...



Our literature, art and architecture are fine specimens of human intelligence, but they bear the ravages of time and also the effect of currents and cross-currents so that today, we have to listen to the foreign historian, or scholar in order to realise the glory and grandeur of Tamil Nadu. Our culture and civilisation are hoary but we have allowed scars and wrinkles to disfigure them. It is our duty, therefore, to re-discover and re-construct what is ours.

Truly great has been our achievement in the field of literature. To be able to announce to the world that we, Tamilians, do possess great literature and to represent to the world and the entire humanity the great Thirukkural are something about which we can have pardonable pride.

-ANNA

Edited & Published by the Director of I & PR., Govt. of Tamil Nadu.
Printed at Tamil Arasu Press. Govt. Estate. Madras-600 002.

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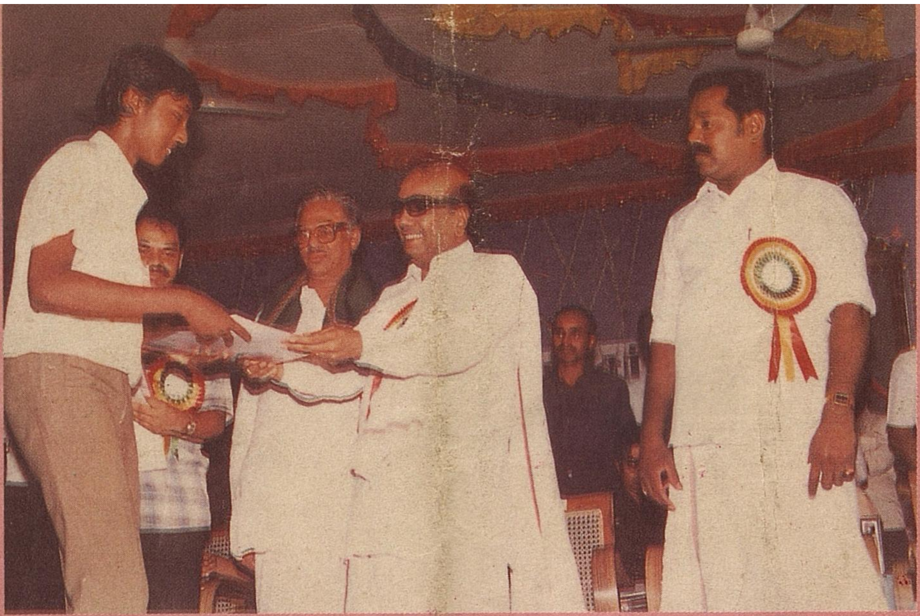
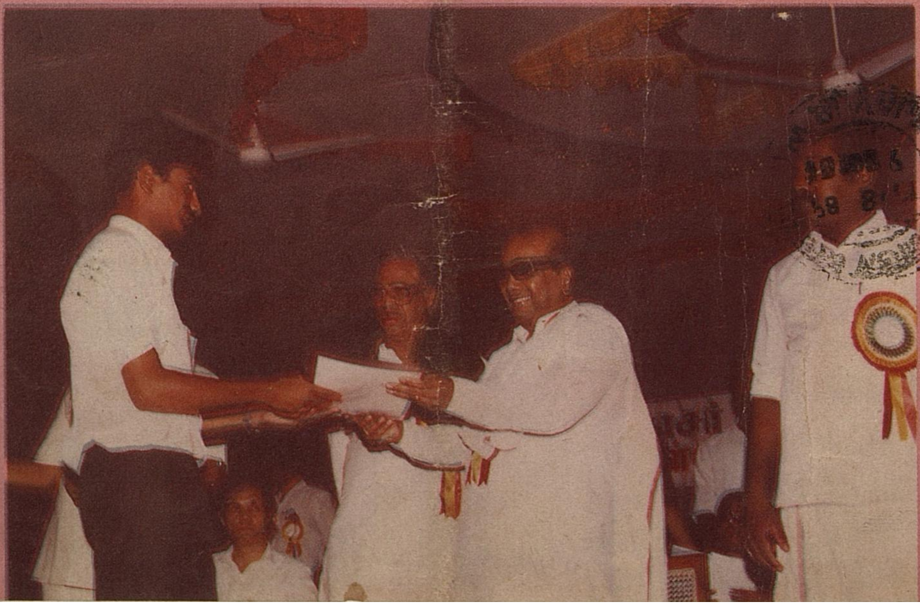
At a function of the Birthday Celebration of Perunthalaivar K. Kamaraj at Valluvar Kottam, on 15-7-1989, the Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. M. Karunanidhi distributed Medals and Cash Awards to the Rank-holders in the S.S.L.C., Plus Two, O.S.L.C. and Matriculation examinations. Hon'ble Education Minister Prof. K. Anbazhagan and Hon'ble Minister for Adi- Dravidar Welfare, Dr. A. Ramakrishnan participated in the function.